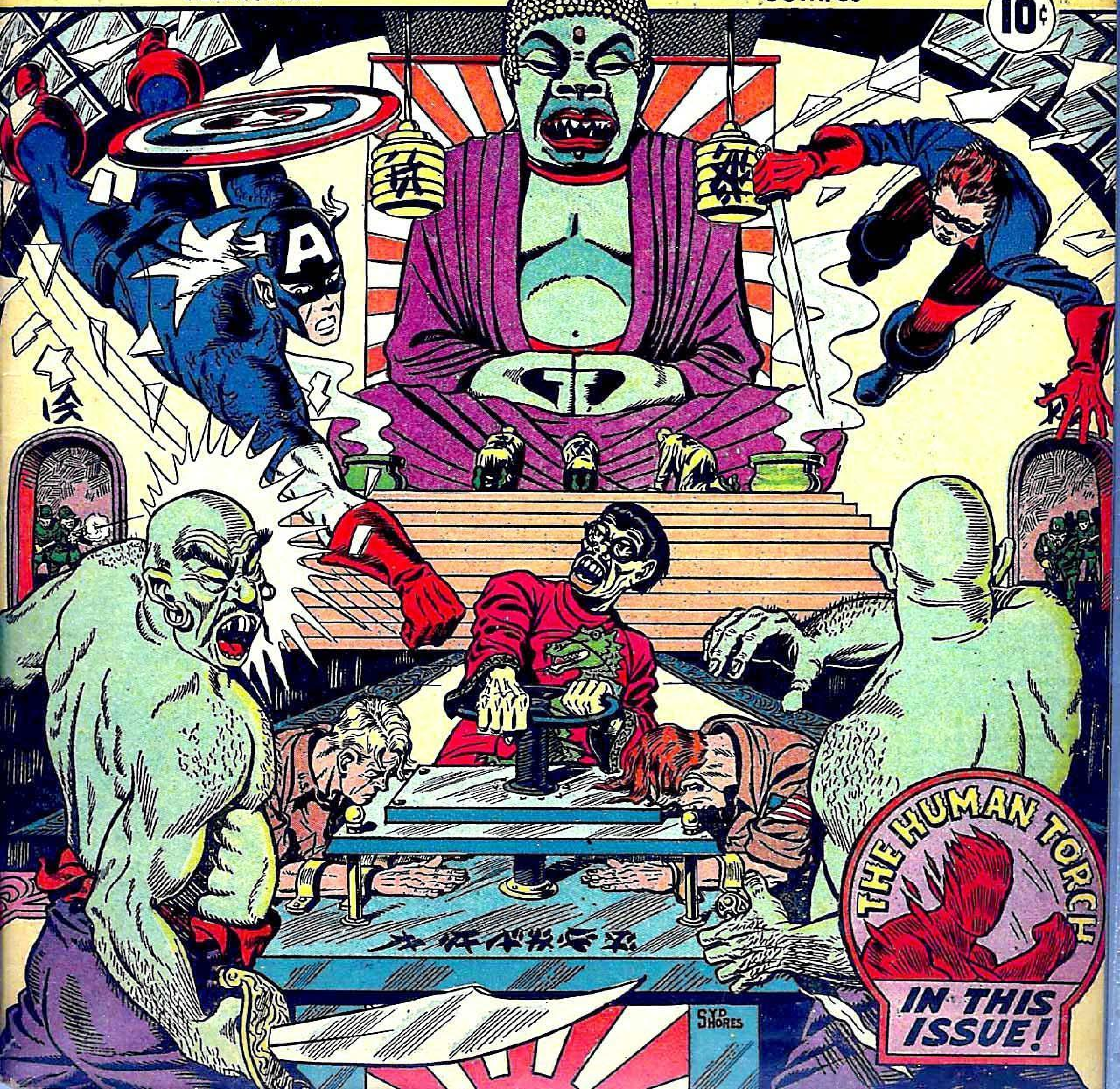
CAPTAIN AMERICA

NO. 35

FEBRUARY

COMICS

10¢



THE HUMAN TORCH
IN THIS ISSUE!
SYD SHORES

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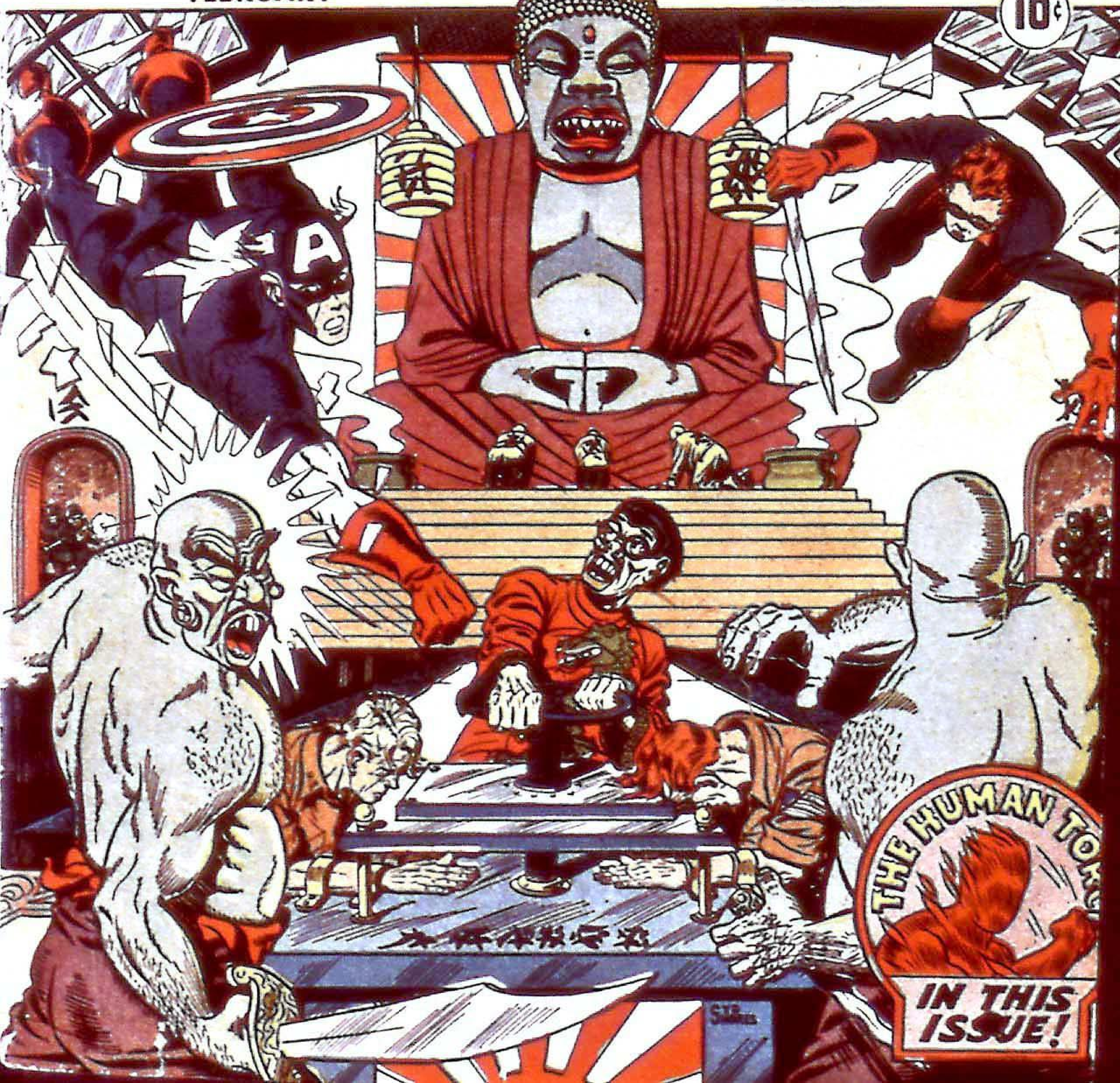
THE HUMAN TORCH
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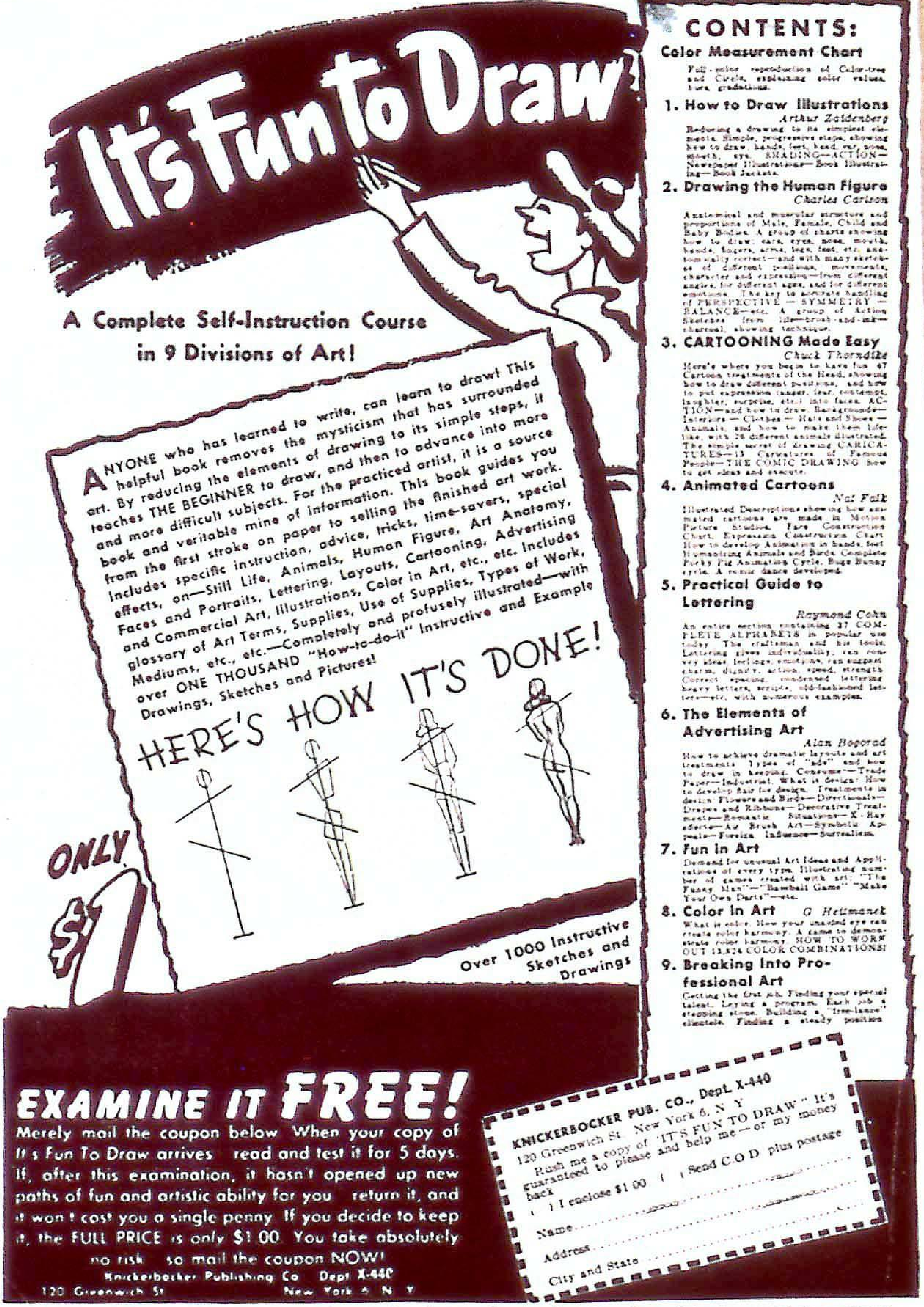
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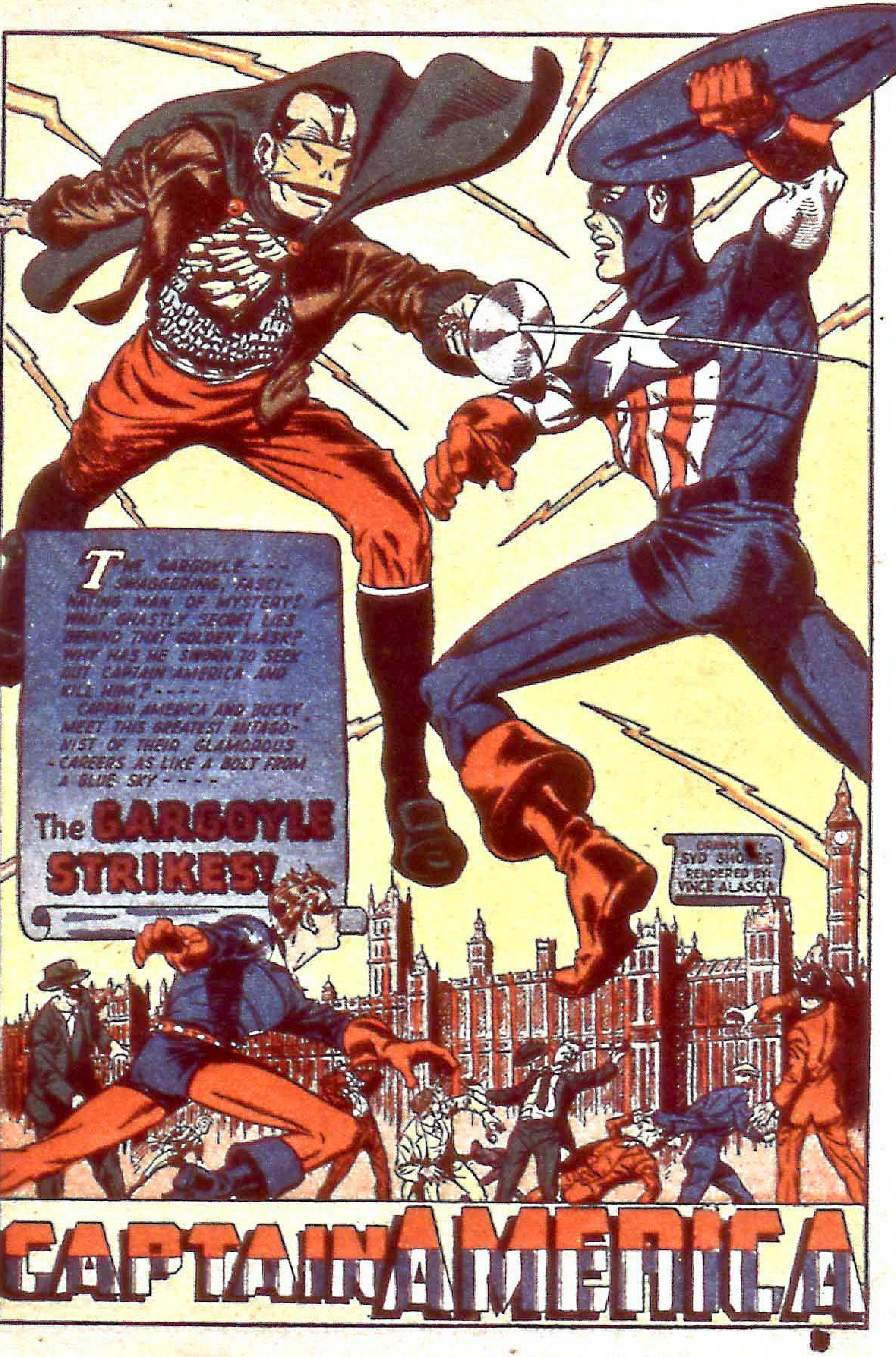
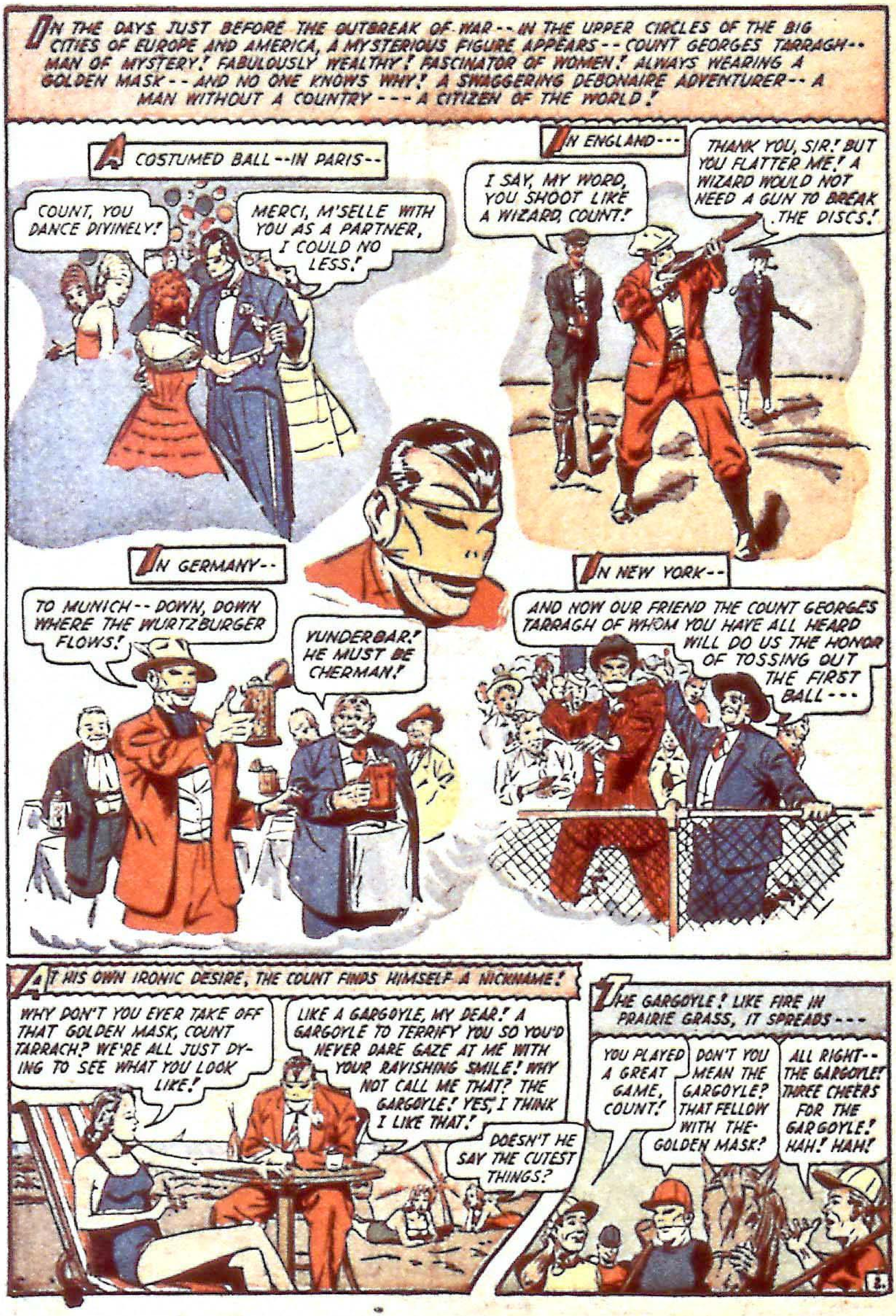
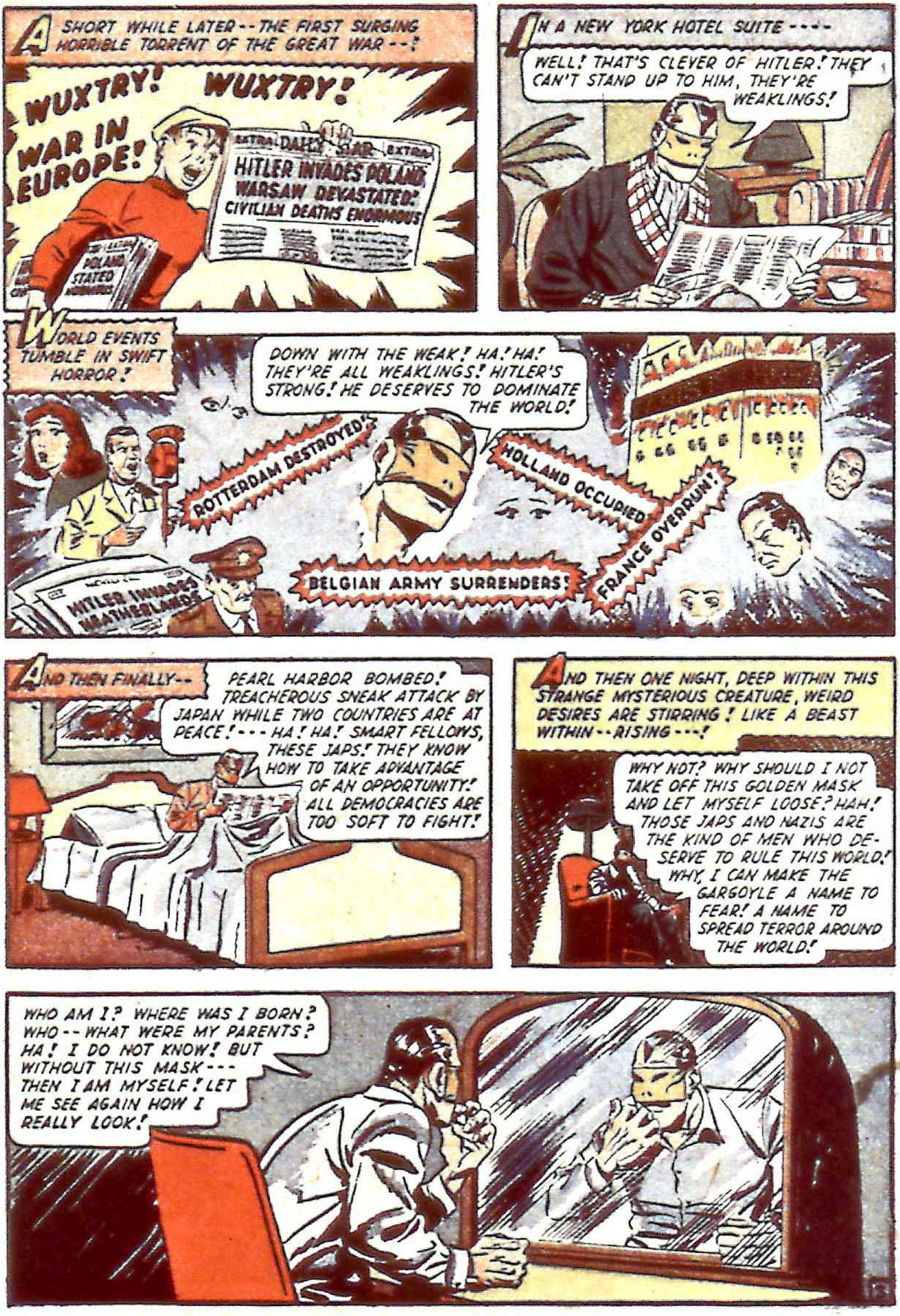
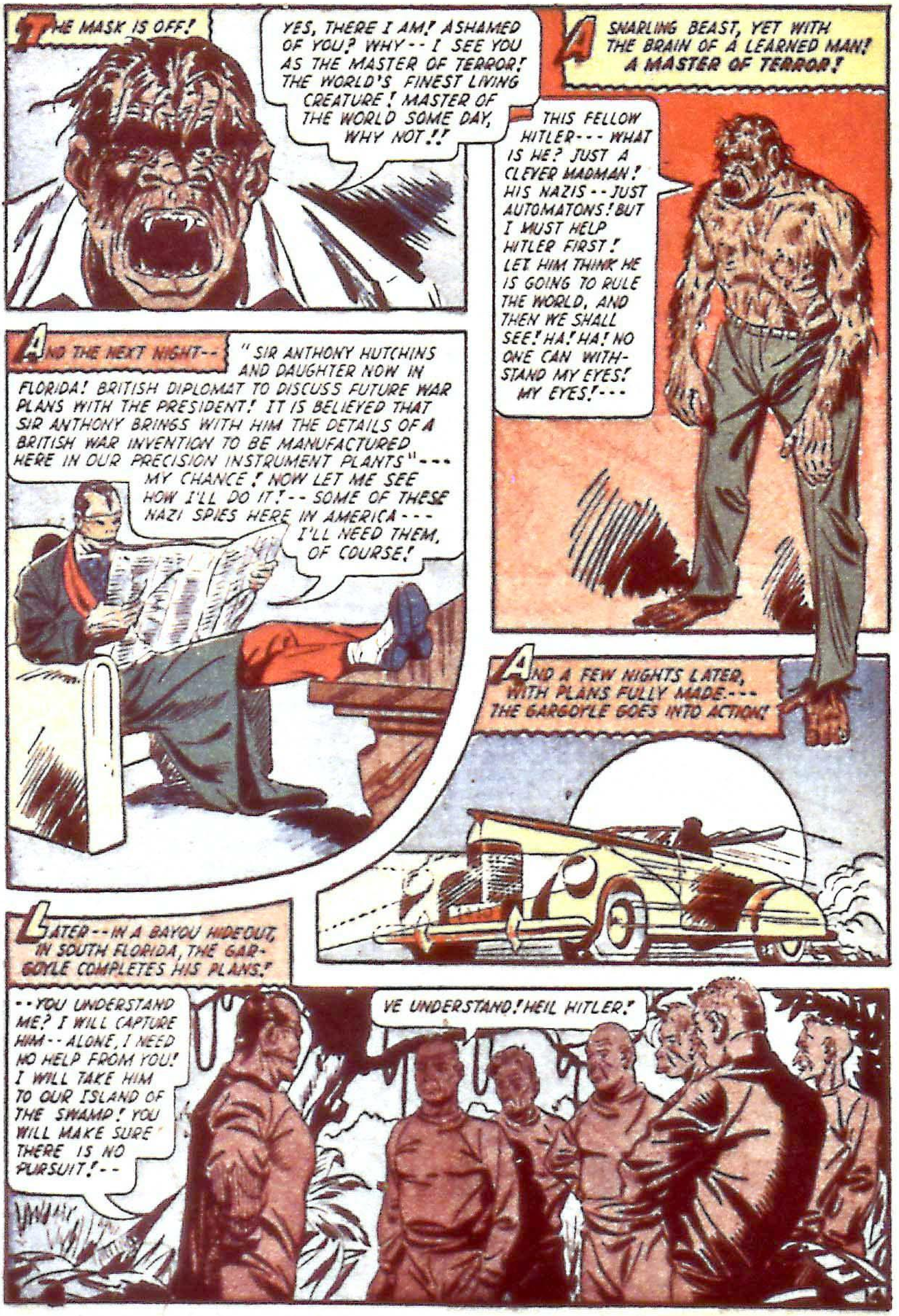
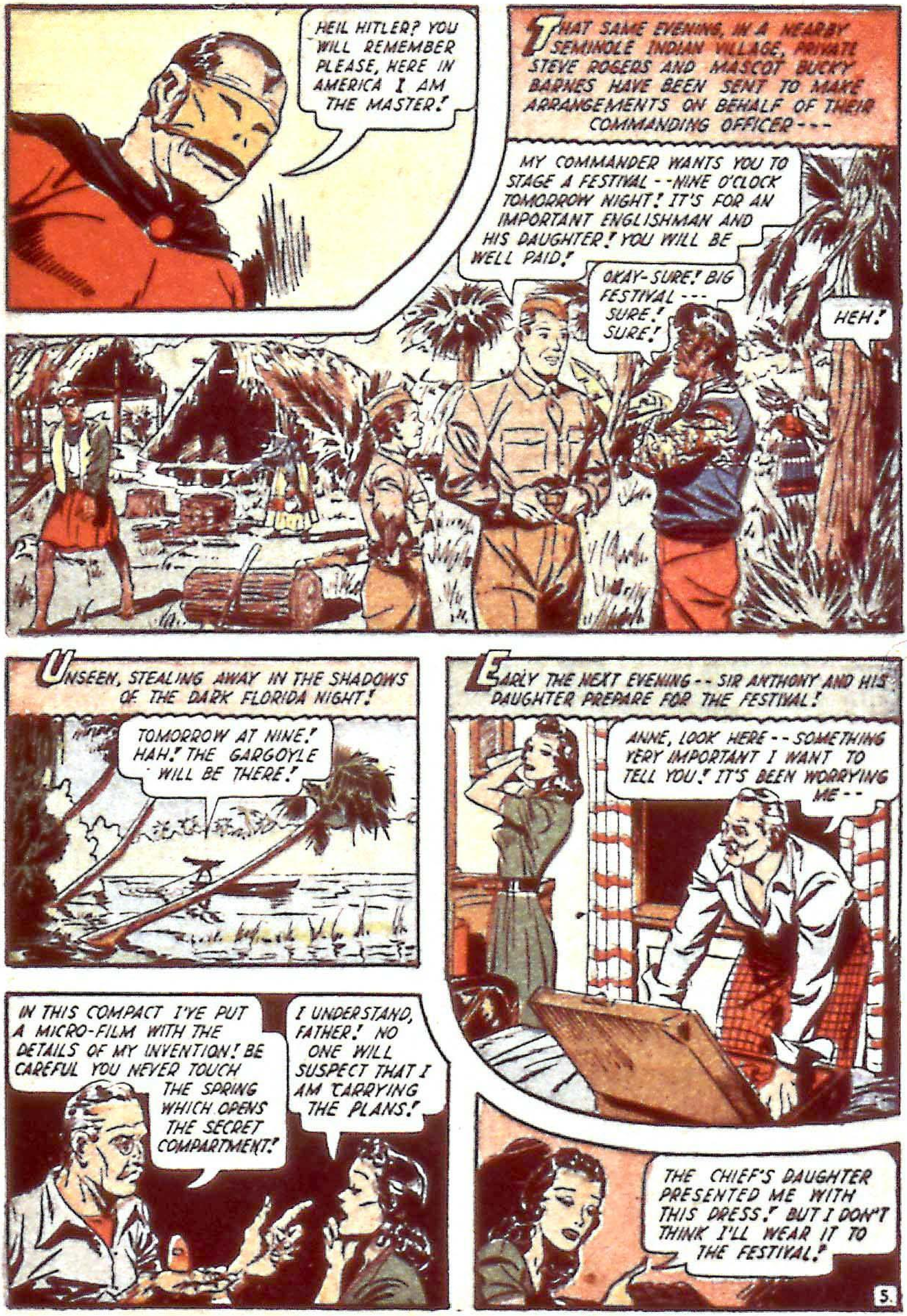

THE GARGOYLE --- SWAGGERING, FASCINATING MAN OF MYSTERY! WHAT GHASTLY SECRET LIES BEHIND THAT GOLDEN MASK? WHY HAS HE SWORN TO SEEK OUT CAPTAIN AMERICA AND KILL HIM? ----
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY MEET THIS GREATEST ANTAGONIST OF THEIR GLAMOROUS - CAREERS AS LIKE A BOLT FROM A BLUE SKY ----
The GARGOYLE STRIKES!
DRAWN BY: SYD SHORES RENDERED BY: VINCE ALASCIA
CAPTAIN AMERICA

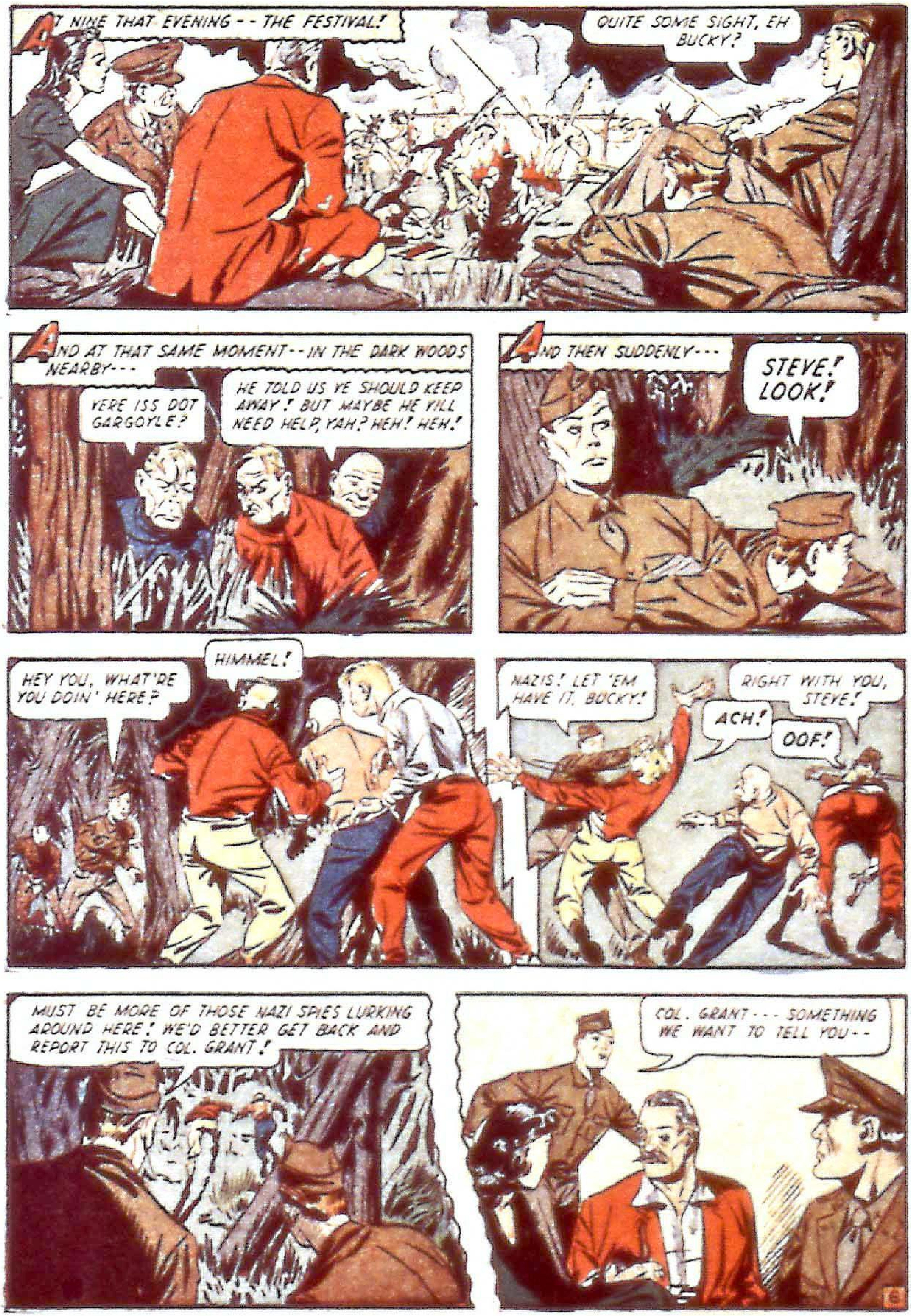
COMIC ART COLLECTION

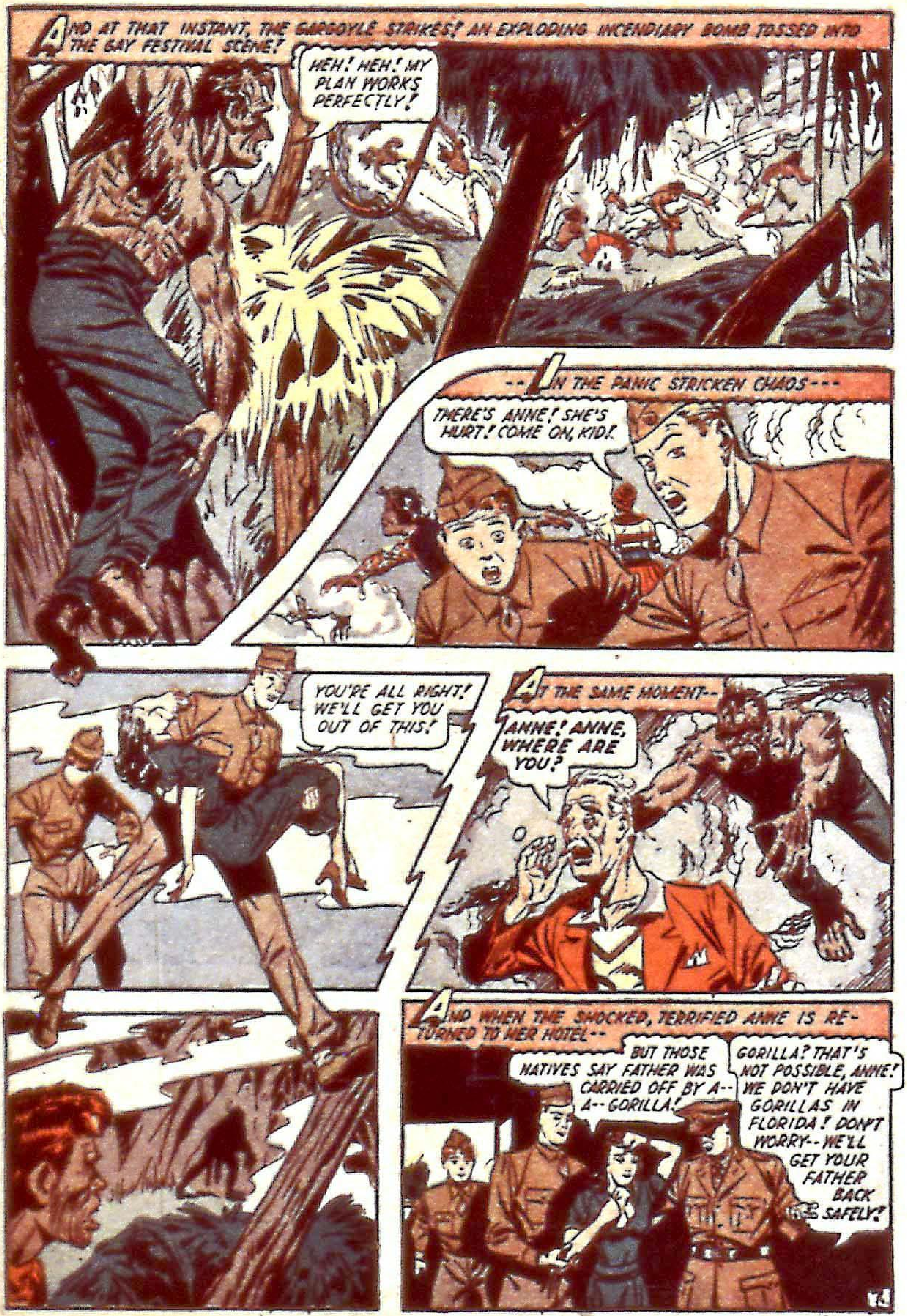

IN THE DAYS JUST BEFORE THE OUTBREAK OF WAR -- IN THE UPPER CIRCLES OF THE BIG CITIES OF EUROPE AND AMERICA, A MYSTERIOUS FIGURE APPEARS -- COUNT GEORGES TARRAGH -- MAN OF MYSTERY! FABULOUSLY WEALTHY! FASCINATOR OF WOMEN! ALWAYS WEARING A GOLDEN MASK -- AND NO ONE KNOWS WHY! A SWAGGERING DEBONAIRE ADVENTURER -- A MAN WITHOUT A COUNTRY --- A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD!
A COSTUMED BALL -- IN PARIS --
COUNT, YOU DANCE DIVINELY!
MERCI, M'SELLE WITH YOU AS A PARTNER, I COULD NO LESS!
IN ENGLAND ---
I SAY, MY WORD, YOU SHOOT LIKE A WIZARD, COUNT!
THANK YOU, SIR! BUT YOU FLATTER ME! A WIZARD WOULD NOT NEED A GUN TO BREAK THE DISCS!
IN GERMANY --
TO MUNICH -- DOWN, DOWN WHERE THE WURTZBURGER FLOWS!
YUNDERBAR! HE MUST BE CHERMAN!
IN NEW YORK --
AND NOW OUR FRIEND THE COUNT GEORGES TARRAGH OF WHOM YOU HAVE ALL HEARD WILL DO US THE HONOR OF TOSSING OUT THE FIRST BALL ---
AT HIS OWN IRONIC DESIRE, THE COUNT FINDS HIMSELF A NICKNAME!
WHY DON'T YOU EVER TAKE OFF THAT GOLDEN MASK, COUNT TARRACH? WE'RE ALL JUST DYING TO SEE WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE!
LIKE A GARGOYLE, MY DEAR! A GARGOYLE TO TERRIFY YOU SO YOU'D NEVER DARE GAZE AT ME WITH YOUR RAVISHING SMILE! WHY NOT CALL ME THAT? THE GARGOYLE! YES, I THINK I LIKE THAT!
DOESN'T HE SAY THE CUTEST THINGS?
THE GARGOYLE! LIKE FIRE IN PRAIRIE GRASS, IT SPREADS ---
YOU PLAYED A GREAT GAME, COUNT!
DON'T YOU MEAN THE GARGOYLE? THAT FELLOW WITH THE GOLDEN MASK?
ALL RIGHT -- THE GARGOYLE! THREE CHEERS FOR THE GARGOYLE! HAH! HAH!

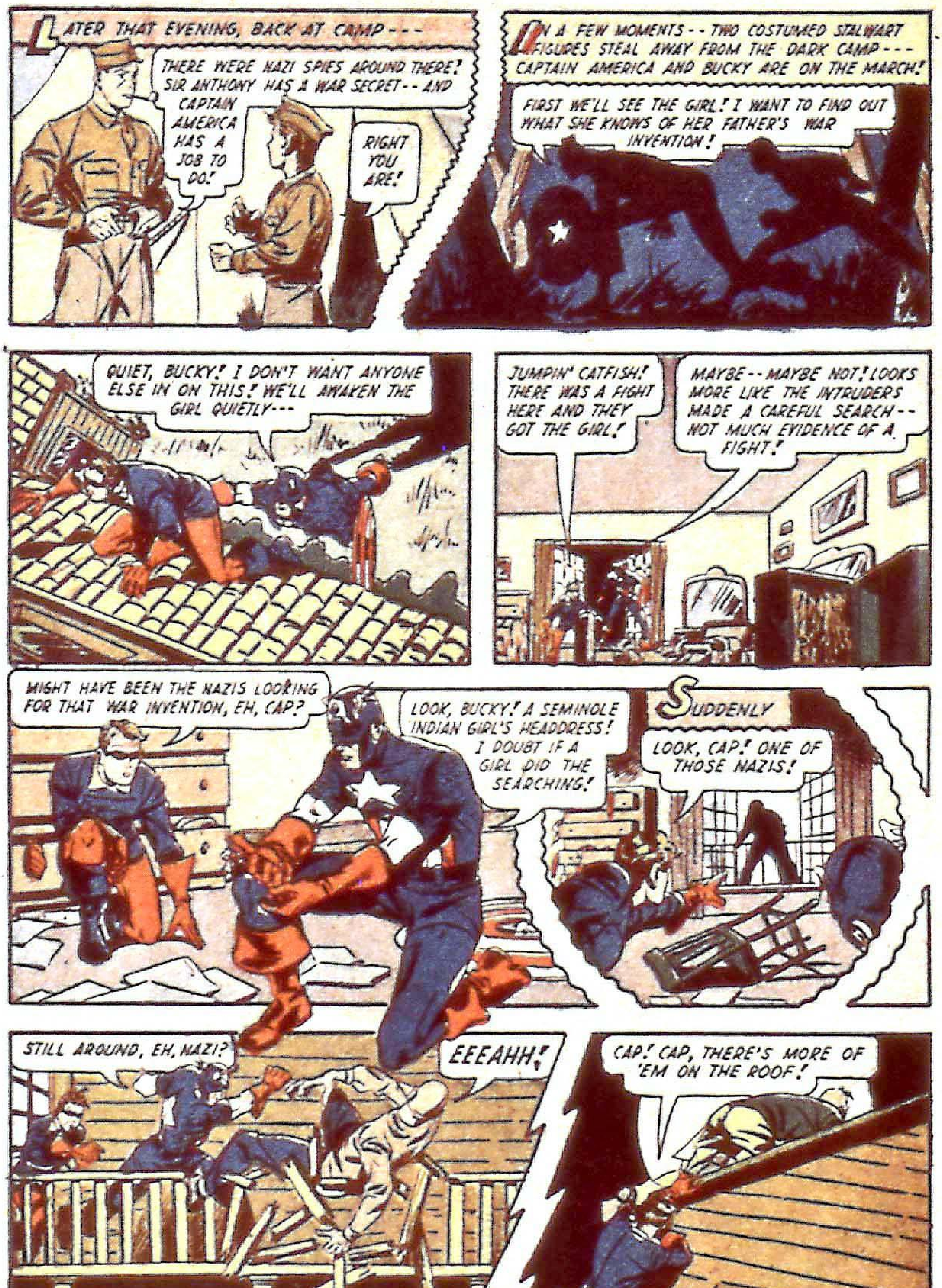

A SHORT WHILE LATER--THE FIRST SURGING HORRIBLE TORRENT OF THE GREAT WAR--!
WUXTRY! WUXTRY! WAR IN EUROPE!
EXTRA DAILY STAR EXTRA
HITLER INVADES POLAND
WARSAW DEVASTATED!
CIVILIAN DEATHS ENORMOUS
POLAND
STATED
IN A NEW YORK HOTEL SUITE----
WELL! THAT'S CLEVER OF HITLER! THEY CAN'T STAND UP TO HIM, THEY'RE WEAKLINGS!
WORLD EVENTS TUMBLE IN SWIFT HORROR!
DOWN WITH THE WEAK! HA! HA! THEY'RE ALL WEAKLINGS! HITLER'S STRONG! HE DESERVES TO DOMINATE THE WORLD!
ROTTERDAM DESTROYED!
HOLLAND OCCUPIED
FRANCE OVERRUN!
BELGIAN ARMY SURRENDERS!
HITLER INVADES NETHERLANDS
AND THEN FINALLY--
PEARL HARBOR BOMBED! TREACHEROUS SNEAK ATTACK BY JAPAN WHILE TWO COUNTRIES ARE AT PEACE!---HA! HA! SMART FELLOWS, THESE JAPS! THEY KNOW HOW TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AN OPPORTUNITY! ALL DEMOCRACIES ARE TOO SOFT TO FIGHT!
AND THEN ONE NIGHT, DEEP WITHIN THIS STRANGE MYSTERIOUS CREATURE, WEIRD DESIRES ARE STIRRING! LIKE A BEAST WITHIN--RISING---!
WHY NOT? WHY SHOULD I NOT TAKE OFF THIS GOLDEN MASK AND LET MYSELF LOOSE? HAH! THOSE JAPS AND NAZIS ARE THE KIND OF MEN WHO DESERVE TO RULE THIS WORLD! WHY, I CAN MAKE THE GARGOYLE A NAME TO FEAR! A NAME TO SPREAD TERROR AROUND THE WORLD!
WHO AM I? WHERE WAS I BORN? WHO--WHAT WERE MY PARENTS? HA! I DO NOT KNOW! BUT WITHOUT THIS MASK---THEN I AM MYSELF! LET ME SEE AGAIN HOW I REALLY LOOK!

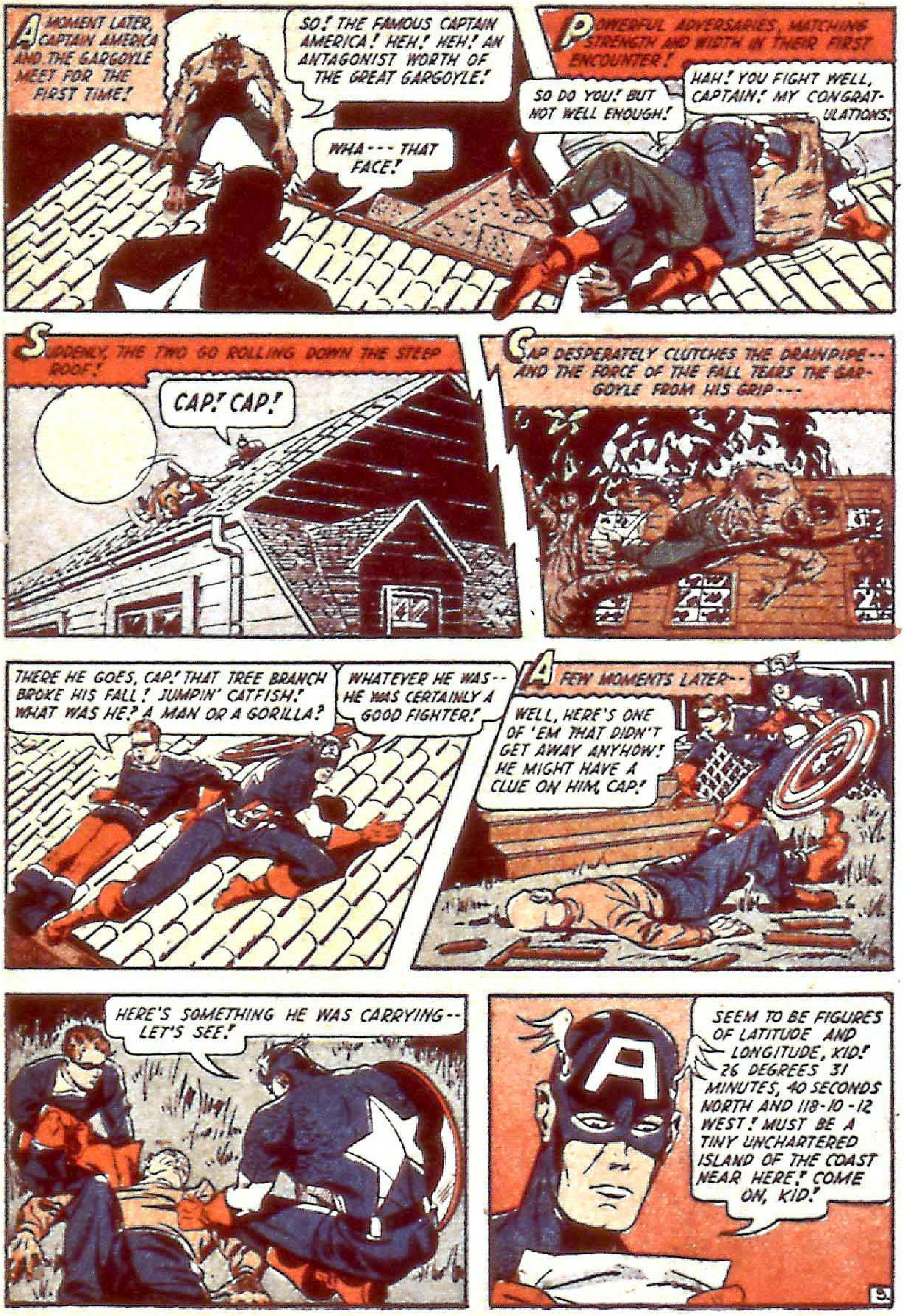

THE MASK IS OFF!
YES, THERE I AM! ASHAMED OF YOU? WHY-- I SEE YOU AS THE MASTER OF TERROR! THE WORLD'S FINEST LIVING CREATURE! MASTER OF THE WORLD SOME DAY, WHY NOT!!
A SNARLING BEAST, YET WITH THE BRAIN OF A LEARNED MAN! A MASTER OF TERROR!
THIS FELLOW HITLER--- WHAT IS HE? JUST A CLEVER MADMAN! HIS NAZIS--JUST AUTOMATONS! BUT I MUST HELP HITLER FIRST! LET HIM THINK HE IS GOING TO RULE THE WORLD, AND THEN WE SHALL SEE! HA! HA! NO ONE CAN WITHSTAND MY EYES! MY EYES!---
AND THE NEXT NIGHT--
"SIR ANTHONY HUTCHINS AND DAUGHTER NOW IN FLORIDA! BRITISH DIPLOMAT TO DISCUSS FUTURE WAR PLANS WITH THE PRESIDENT! IT IS BELIEVED THAT SIR ANTHONY BRINGS WITH HIM THE DETAILS OF A BRITISH WAR INVENTION TO BE MANUFACTURED HERE IN OUR PRECISION INSTRUMENT PLANTS"--- MY CHANCE! NOW LET ME SEE HOW I'LL DO IT!-- SOME OF THESE NAZI SPIES HERE IN AMERICA--- I'LL NEED THEM, OF COURSE!
AND A FEW NIGHTS LATER, WITH PLANS FULLY MADE--- THE GARGOYLE GOES INTO ACTION!
LATER--IN A BAYOU HIDEOUT, IN SOUTH FLORIDA, THE GARGOYLE COMPLETES HIS PLANS!
--YOU UNDERSTAND ME? I WILL CAPTURE HIM--ALONE, I NEED NO HELP FROM YOU! I WILL TAKE HIM TO OUR ISLAND OF THE SWAMP! YOU WILL MAKE SURE THERE IS NO PURSUIT!--
VE UNDERSTAND! HEIL HITLER!

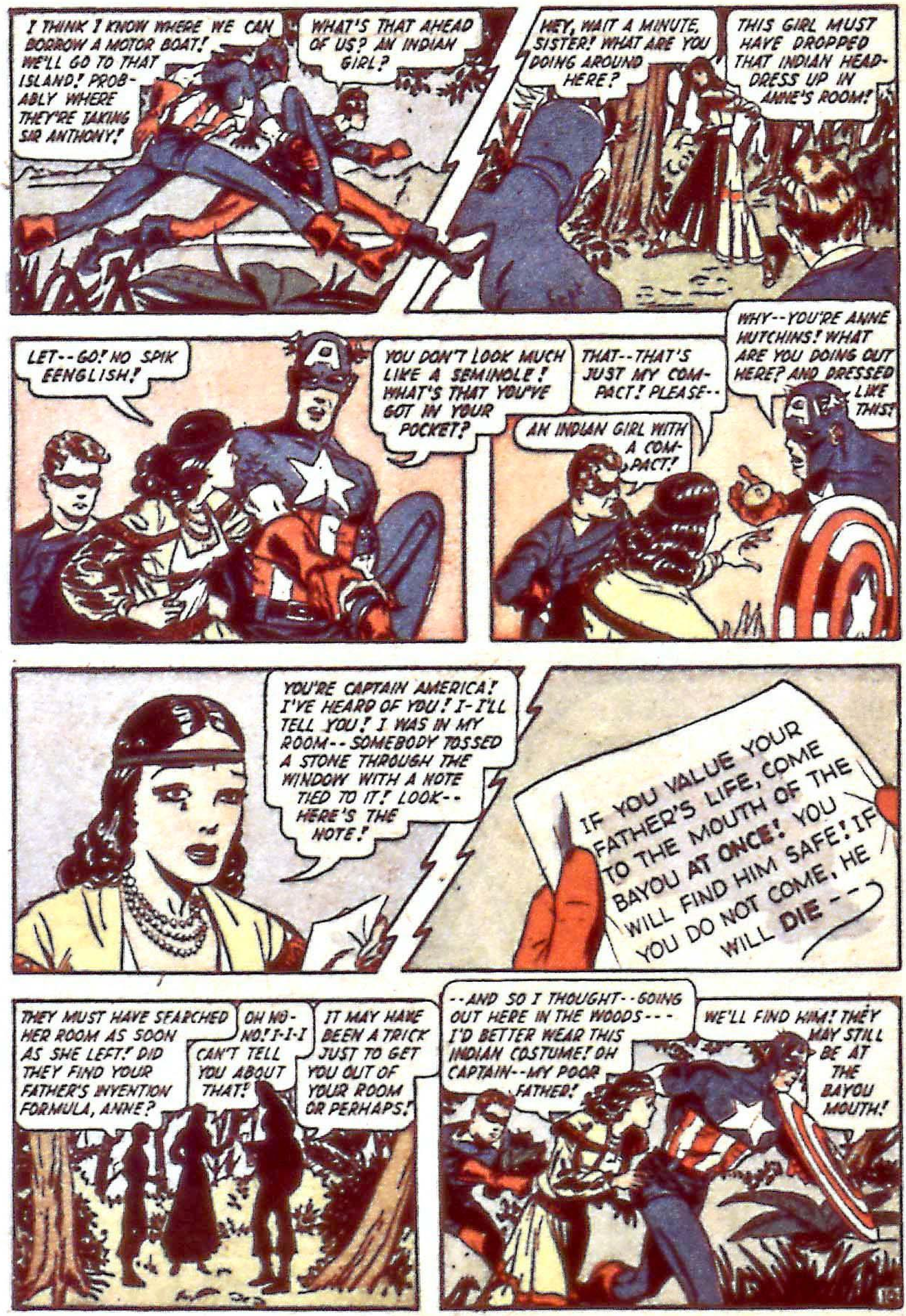

HEIL HITLER? YOU WILL REMEMBER PLEASE, HERE IN AMERICA I AM THE MASTER!
THAT SAME EVENING, IN A NEARBY SEMINOLE INDIAN VILLAGE, PRIVATE STEVE ROGERS AND MASCOT BUCKY BARNES HAVE BEEN SENT TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS ON BEHALF OF THEIR COMMANDING OFFICER---
MY COMMANDER WANTS YOU TO STAGE A FESTIVAL --NINE O'CLOCK TOMORROW NIGHT! IT'S FOR AN IMPORTANT ENGLISHMAN AND HIS DAUGHTER! YOU WILL BE WELL PAID!
OKAY-SURE! BIG FESTIVAL --- SURE! SURE!
HEH!
UNSEEN, STEALING AWAY IN THE SHADOWS OF THE DARK FLORIDA NIGHT!
TOMORROW AT NINE! HAH! THE GARGOYLE WILL BE THERE!
EARLY THE NEXT EVENING -- SIR ANTHONY AND HIS DAUGHTER PREPARE FOR THE FESTIVAL!
ANNE, LOOK HERE -- SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT I WANT TO TELL YOU! IT'S BEEN WORRYING ME --
IN THIS COMPACT I'VE PUT A MICRO-FILM WITH THE DETAILS OF MY INVENTION! BE CAREFUL YOU NEVER TOUCH THE SPRING WHICH OPENS THE SECRET COMPARTMENT!
I UNDERSTAND, FATHER! NO ONE WILL SUSPECT THAT I AM CARRYING THE PLANS!
THE CHIEF'S DAUGHTER PRESENTED ME WITH THIS DRESS! BUT I DON'T THINK I'LL WEAR IT TO THE FESTIVAL!

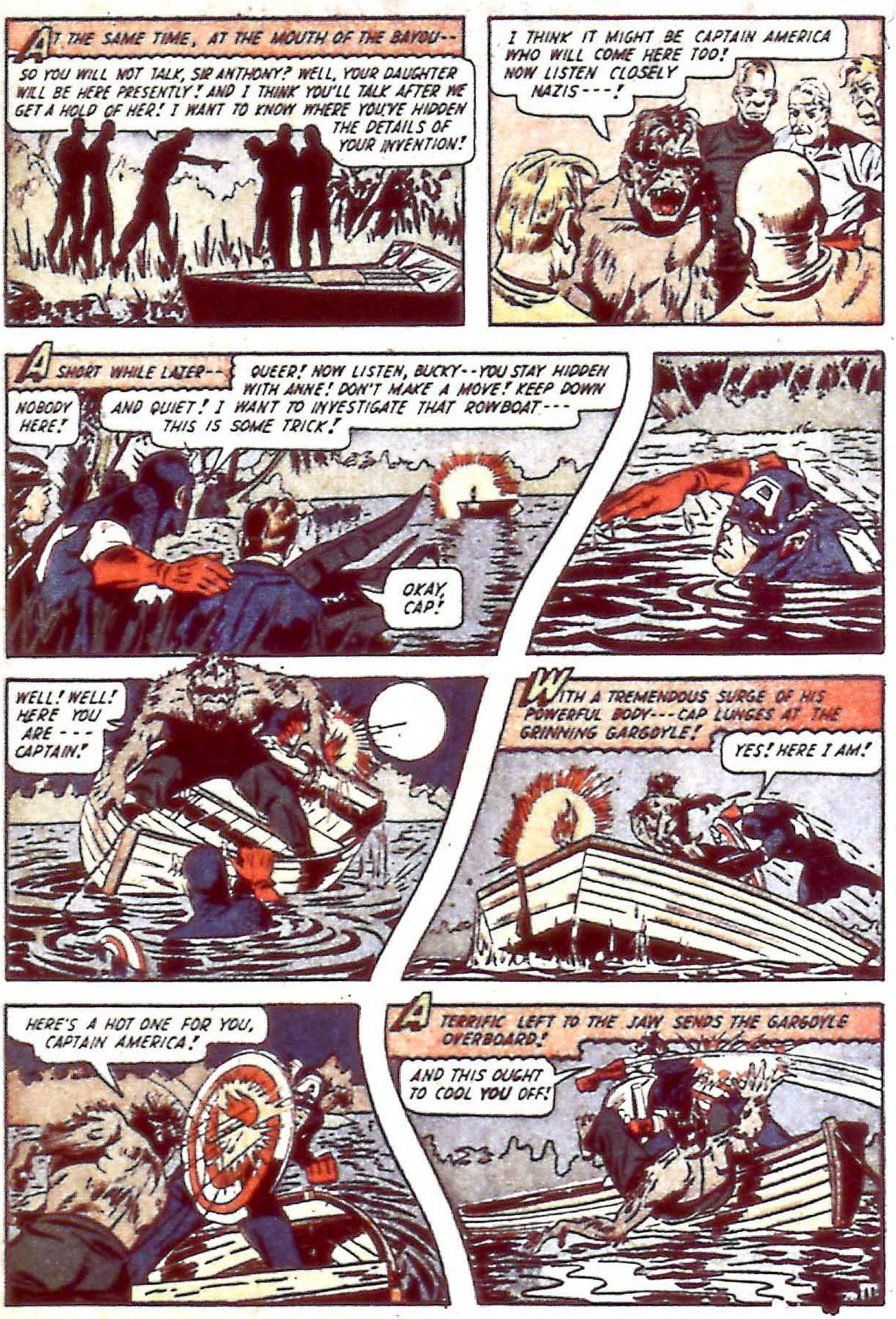

AT NINE THAT EVENING - - THE FESTIVAL!
QUITE SOME SIGHT, EH BUCKY?
AND AT THAT SAME MOMENT - - IN THE DARK WOODS NEARBY - - -
YERE ISS DOT GARGOYLE?
HE TOLD US VE SHOULD KEEP AWAY! BUT MAYBE HE VILL NEED HELP, YAH? HEH! HEH!
AND THEN SUDDENLY - - -
STEVE! LOOK!
HEY YOU, WHAT'RE YOU DOIN' HERE?
HIMMEL!
NAZIS! LET 'EM HAVE IT, BUCKY!
RIGHT WITH YOU, STEVE!
ACH!
OOF!
MUST BE MORE OF THOSE NAZI SPIES LURKING AROUND HERE! WE'D BETTER GET BACK AND REPORT THIS TO COL. GRANT!
COL. GRANT - - - SOMETHING WE WANT TO TELL YOU - -

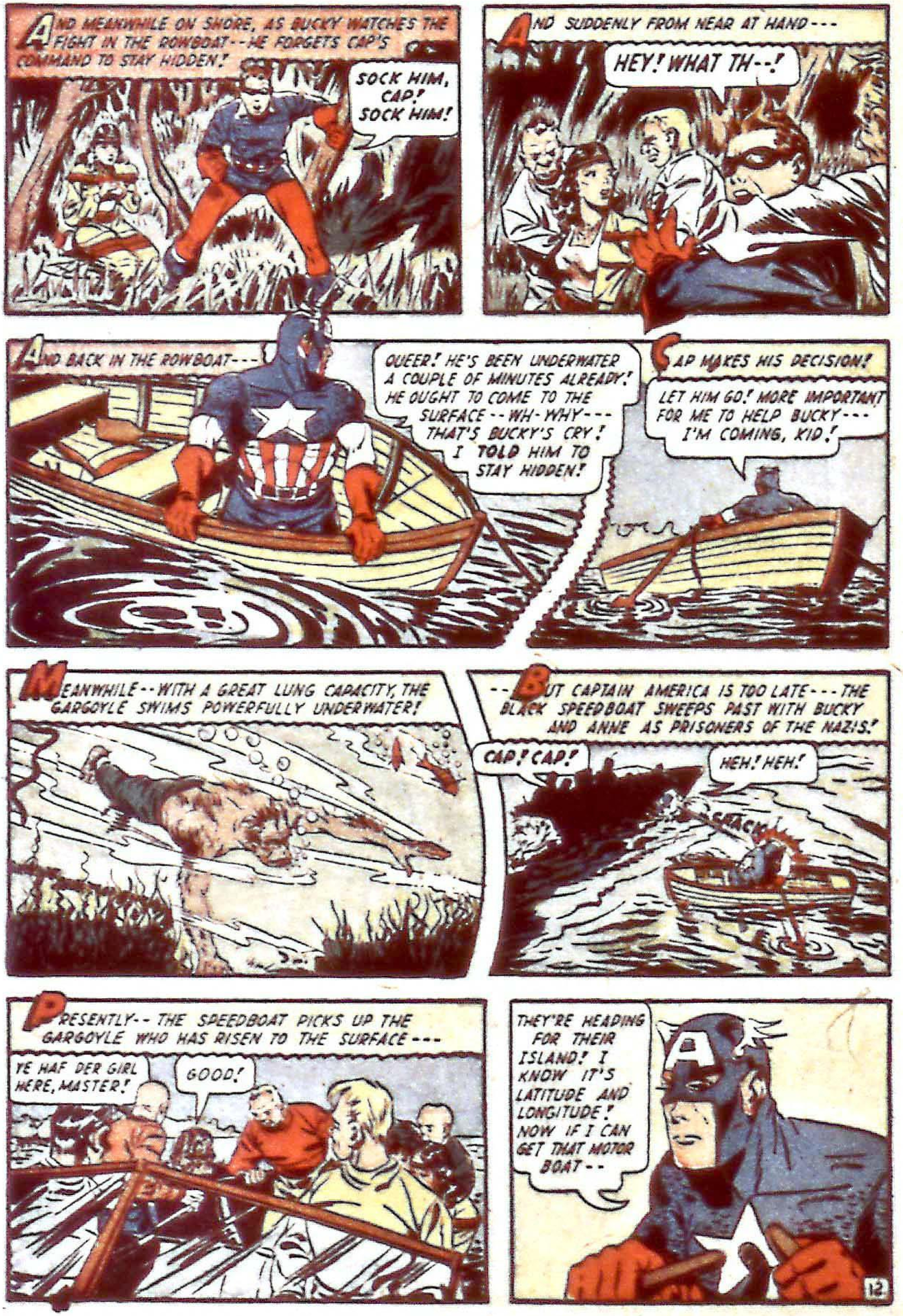

AND AT THAT INSTANT, THE GARGOYLE STRIKES! AN EXPLODING INCENDIARY BOMB TOSSED INTO THE GAY FESTIVAL SCENE!
HEH! HEH! MY PLAN WORKS PERFECTLY!
--IN THE PANIC STRICKEN CHAOS---
THERE'S ANNE! SHE'S HURT! COME ON, KID!
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! WE'LL GET YOU OUT OF THIS!
AT THE SAME MOMENT--
ANNE! ANNE, WHERE ARE YOU?
AND WHEN THE SHOCKED, TERRIFIED ANNE IS RETURNED TO HER HOTEL--
BUT THOSE NATIVES SAY FATHER WAS CARRIED OFF BY A--A--GORILLA!
GORILLA? THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE, ANNE! WE DON'T HAVE GORILLAS IN FLORIDA! DON'T WORRY--WE'LL GET YOUR FATHER BACK SAFELY!

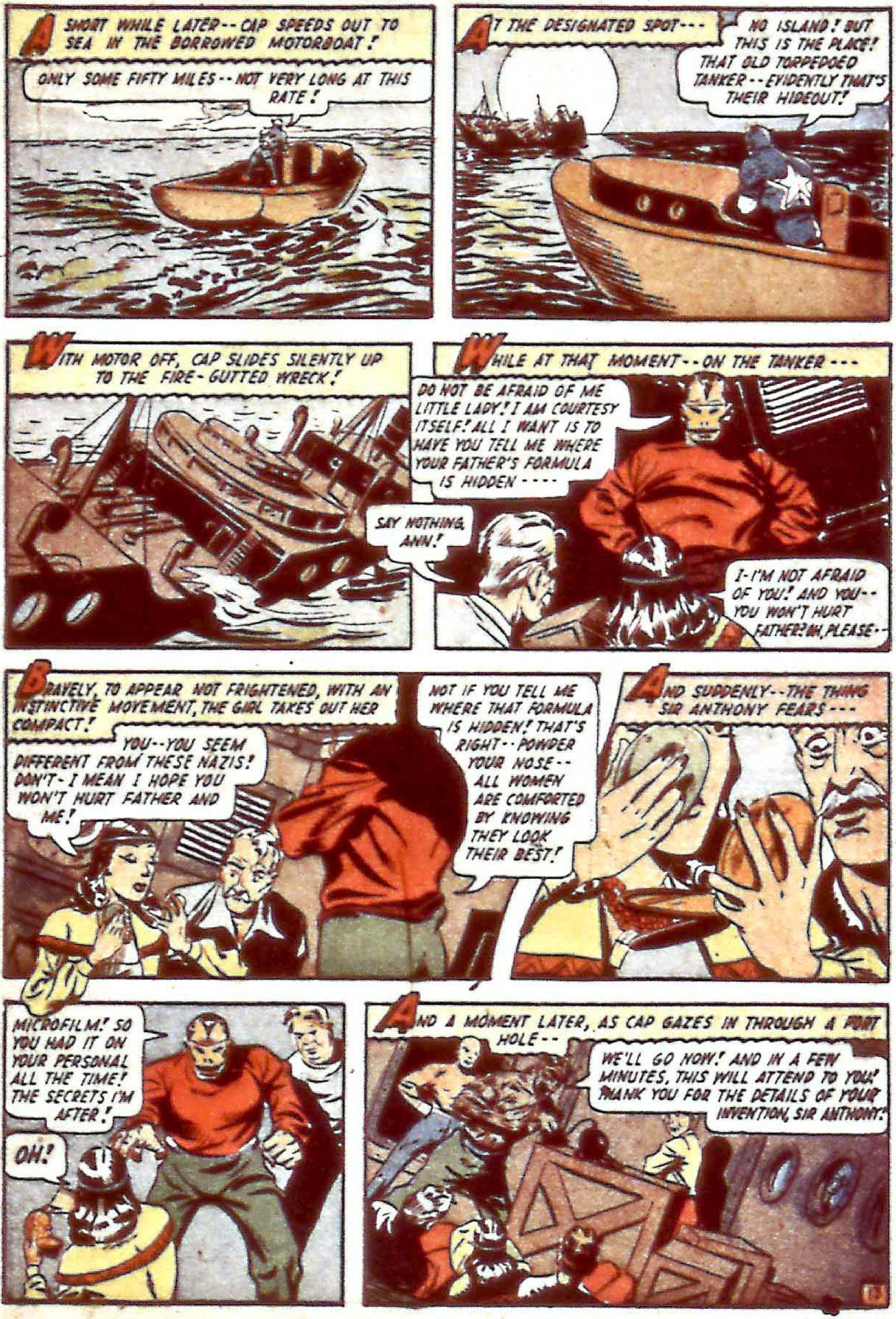

LATER THAT EVENING, BACK AT CAMP---
THERE WERE NAZI SPIES AROUND THERE! SIR ANTHONY HAS A WAR SECRET--AND CAPTAIN AMERICA HAS A JOB TO DO!
RIGHT YOU ARE!
IN A FEW MOMENTS--TWO COSTUMED STALWART FIGURES STEAL AWAY FROM THE DARK CAMP---CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY ARE ON THE MARCH!
FIRST WE'LL SEE THE GIRL! I WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT SHE KNOWS OF HER FATHER'S WAR INVENTION!
QUIET, BUCKY! I DON'T WANT ANYONE ELSE IN ON THIS! WE'LL AWAKEN THE GIRL QUIETLY---
JUMPIN' CATFISH! THERE WAS A FIGHT HERE AND THEY GOT THE GIRL!
MAYBE--MAYBE NOT! LOOKS MORE LIKE THE INTRUDERS MADE A CAREFUL SEARCH--NOT MUCH EVIDENCE OF A FIGHT!
MIGHT HAVE BEEN THE NAZIS LOOKING FOR THAT WAR INVENTION, EH, CAP?
LOOK, BUCKY! A SEMINOLE INDIAN GIRL'S HEADDRESS! I DOUBT IF A GIRL DID THE SEARCHING!
SUDDENLY
LOOK, CAP! ONE OF THOSE NAZIS!
STILL AROUND, EH, NAZI?
EEEAHH!
CAP! CAP, THERE'S MORE OF 'EM ON THE ROOF!

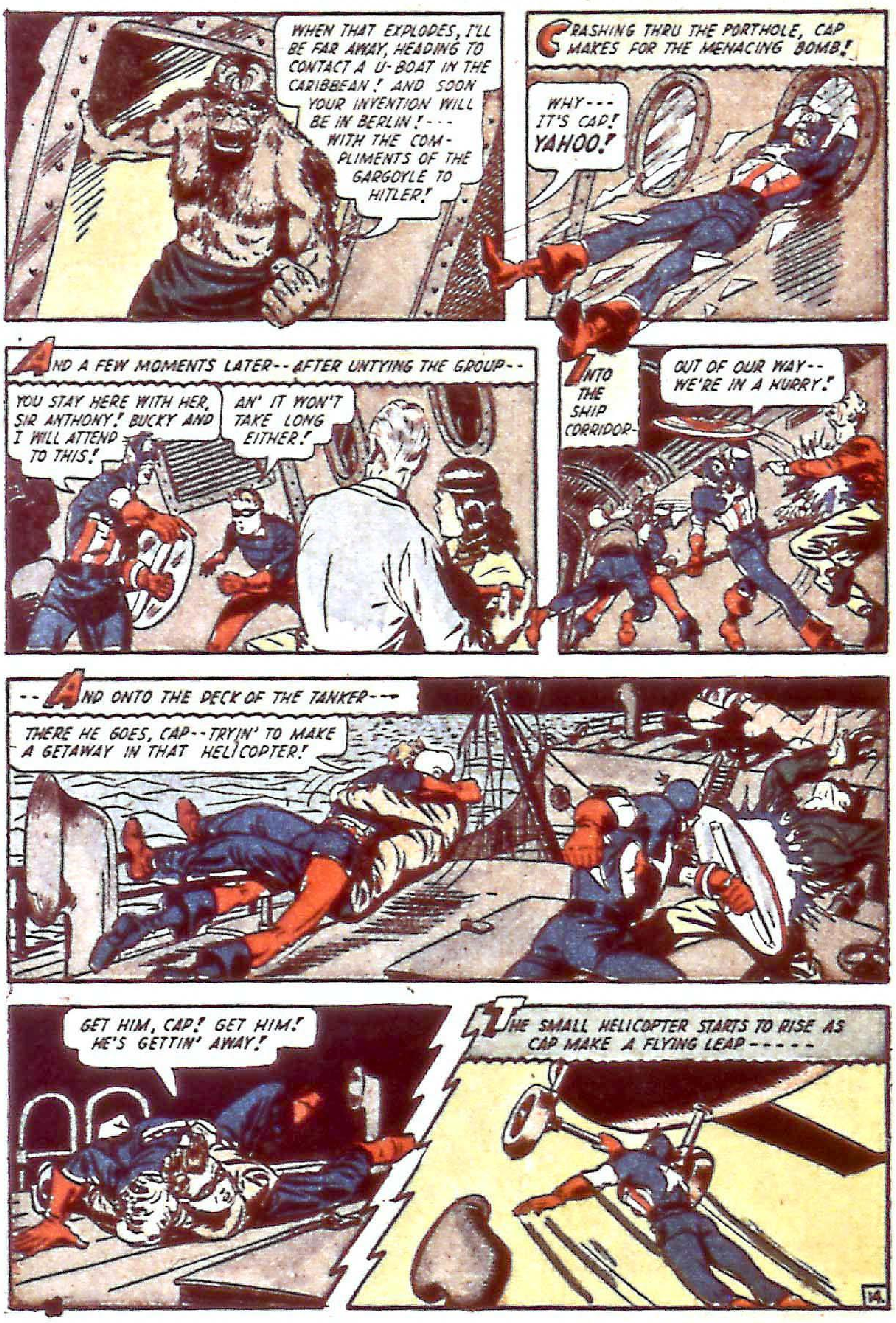

A MOMENT LATER, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND THE GARGOYLE MEET FOR THE FIRST TIME!
SO! THE FAMOUS CAPTAIN AMERICA! HEH! HEH! AN ANTAGONIST WORTH OF THE GREAT GARGOYLE!
WHA--- THAT FACE!
POWERFUL ADVERSARIES, MATCHING STRENGTH AND WIDTH IN THEIR FIRST ENCOUNTER!
HAH! YOU FIGHT WELL, CAPTAIN! MY CONGRATULATIONS!
SO DO YOU! BUT NOT WELL ENOUGH!
SUDDENLY, THE TWO GO ROLLING DOWN THE STEEP ROOF!
CAP! CAP!
CAP DESPERATELY CLUTCHES THE DRAINPIPE-- AND THE FORCE OF THE FALL TEARS THE GARGOYLE FROM HIS GRIP---
THERE HE GOES, CAP! THAT TREE BRANCH BROKE HIS FALL! JUMPIN' CATFISH! WHAT WAS HE? A MAN OR A GORILLA?
WHATEVER HE WAS-- HE WAS CERTAINLY A GOOD FIGHTER!
A FEW MOMENTS LATER--
WELL, HERE'S ONE OF 'EM THAT DIDN'T GET AWAY ANYHOW! HE MIGHT HAVE A CLUE ON HIM, CAP!
HERE'S SOMETHING HE WAS CARRYING-- LET'S SEE!
SEEM TO BE FIGURES OF LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE, KID! 26 DEGREES 31 MINUTES, 40 SECONDS NORTH AND 118-10-12 WEST! MUST BE A TINY UNCHARTERED ISLAND OF THE COAST NEAR HERE! COME ON, KID!

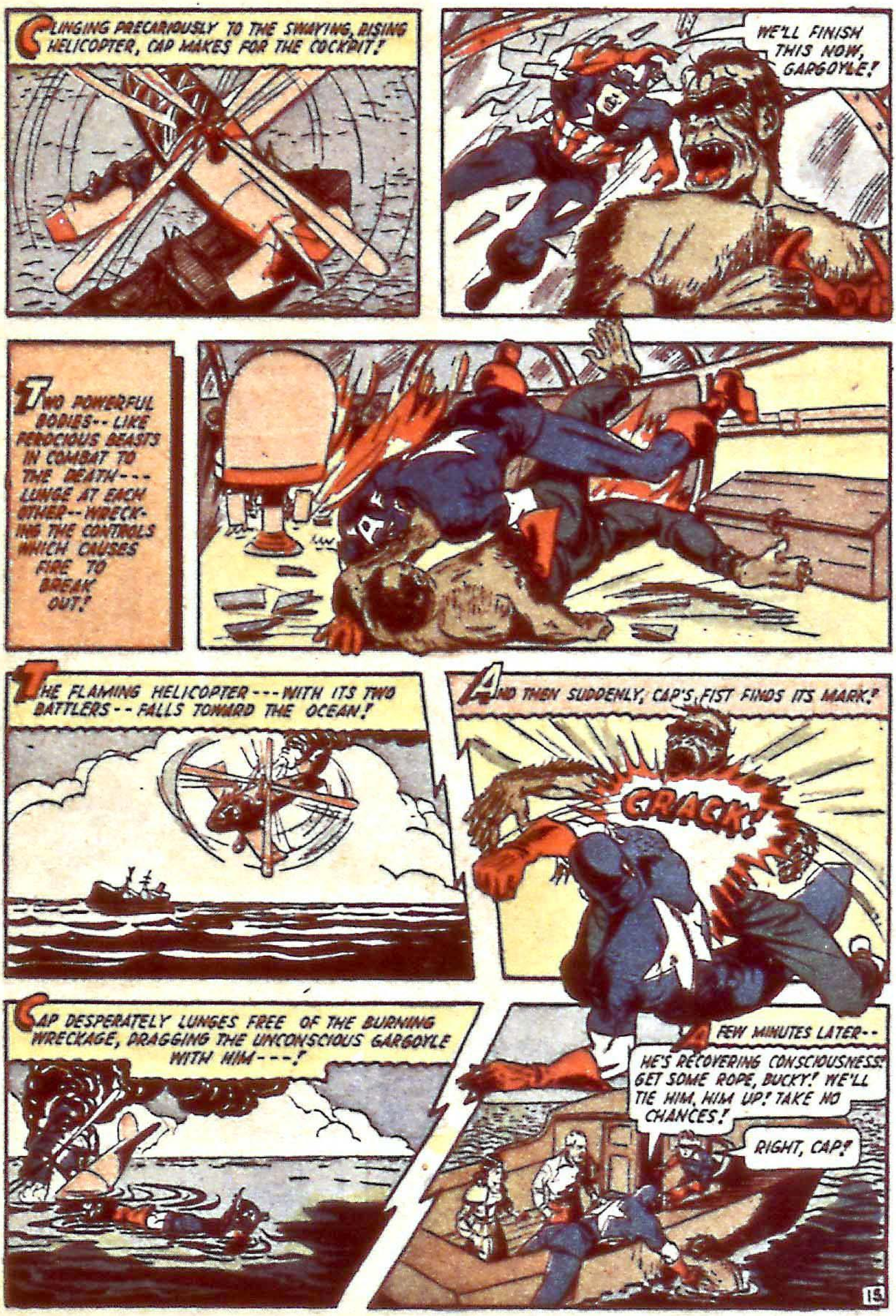

I THINK I KNOW WHERE WE CAN BORROW A MOTOR BOAT! WE'LL GO TO THAT ISLAND! PROBABLY WHERE THEY'RE TAKING SIR ANTHONY!
WHAT'S THAT AHEAD OF US? AN INDIAN GIRL?
HEY, WAIT A MINUTE, SISTER! WHAT ARE YOU DOING AROUND HERE?
THIS GIRL MUST HAVE DROPPED THAT INDIAN HEAD-DRESS UP IN ANNE'S ROOM!
LET--GO! NO SPIK EENGLISH!
YOU DON'T LOOK MUCH LIKE A SEMINOLE! WHAT'S THAT YOU'VE GOT IN YOUR POCKET?
THAT--THAT'S JUST MY COMPACT! PLEASE--
AN INDIAN GIRL WITH A COMPACT!
WHY--YOU'RE ANNE HUTCHINS! WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE? AND DRESSED LIKE THIS?
YOU'RE CAPTAIN AMERICA! I'VE HEARD OF YOU! I-I'LL TELL YOU! I WAS IN MY ROOM--SOMEBODY TOSSED A STONE THROUGH THE WINDOW WITH A NOTE TIED TO IT! LOOK--HERE'S THE NOTE!
IF YOU VALUE YOUR FATHER'S LIFE, COME TO THE MOUTH OF THE BAYOU AT ONCE! YOU WILL FIND HIM SAFE! IF YOU DO NOT COME, HE WILL DIE--
THEY MUST HAVE SEARCHED HER ROOM AS SOON AS SHE LEFT! DID THEY FIND YOUR FATHER'S INVENTION FORMULA, ANNE?
OH NO-NO! I-I-I CAN'T TELL YOU ABOUT THAT!
IT MAY HAVE BEEN A TRICK JUST TO GET YOU OUT OF YOUR ROOM OR PERHAPS!
--AND SO I THOUGHT--GOING OUT HERE IN THE WOODS---I'D BETTER WEAR THIS INDIAN COSTUME! OH CAPTAIN--MY POOR FATHER!
WE'LL FIND HIM! THEY MAY STILL BE AT THE BAYOU MOUTH!

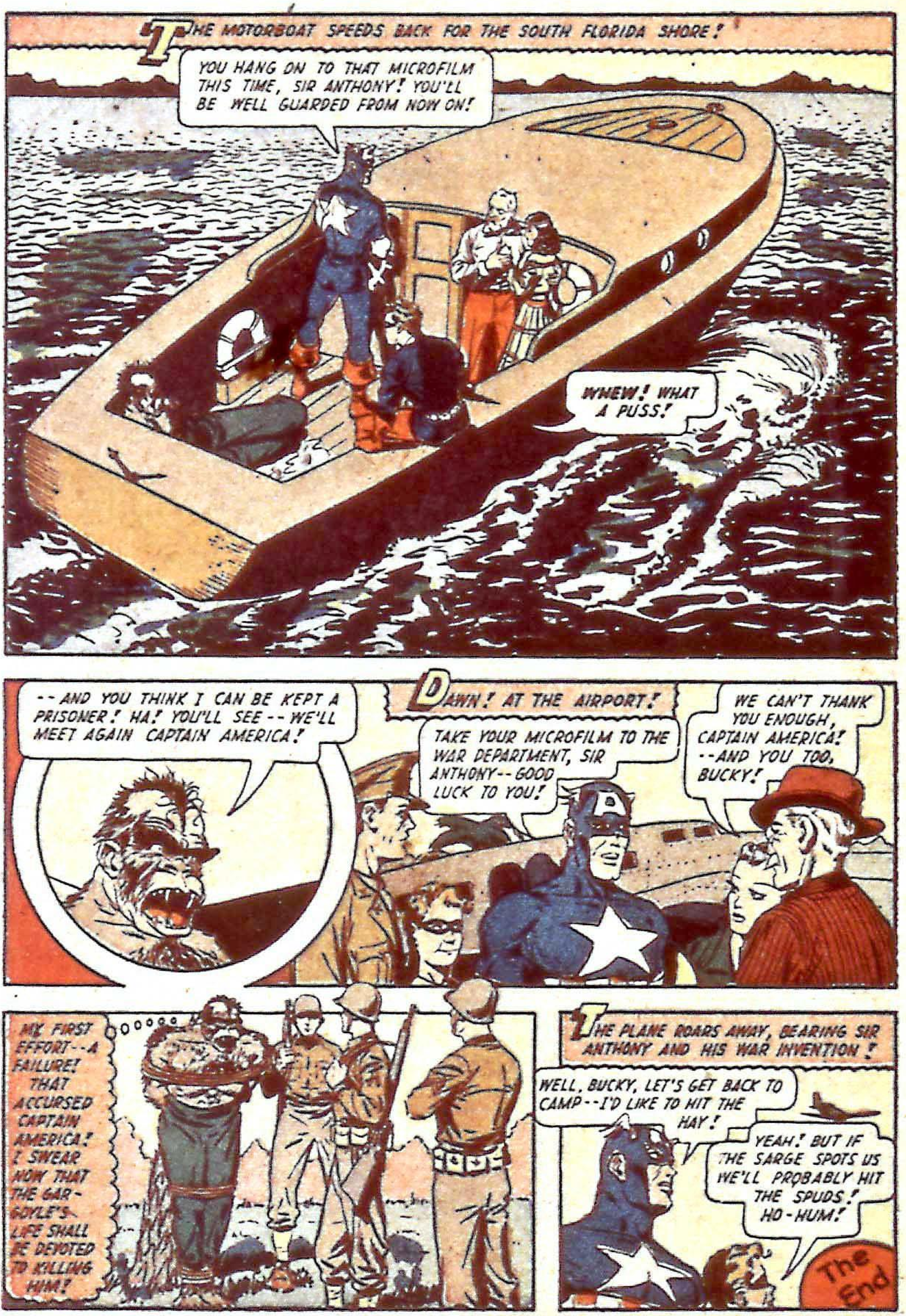

AT THE SAME TIME, AT THE MOUTH OF THE BAYOU--
SO YOU WILL NOT TALK, SIR ANTHONY? WELL, YOUR DAUGHTER WILL BE HERE PRESENTLY! AND I THINK YOU'LL TALK AFTER WE GET A HOLD OF HER! I WANT TO KNOW WHERE YOU'VE HIDDEN THE DETAILS OF YOUR INVENTION!
I THINK IT MIGHT BE CAPTAIN AMERICA WHO WILL COME HERE TOO! NOW LISTEN CLOSELY NAZIS---!
A SHORT WHILE LATER--
NOBODY HERE!
QUEER! NOW LISTEN, BUCKY--YOU STAY HIDDEN WITH ANNE! DON'T MAKE A MOVE! KEEP DOWN AND QUIET! I WANT TO INVESTIGATE THAT ROWBOAT--- THIS IS SOME TRICK!
OKAY, CAP!
WELL! WELL! HERE YOU ARE--- CAPTAIN!
WITH A TREMENDOUS SURGE OF HIS POWERFUL BODY---CAP LUNGES AT THE GRINNING GARGOYLE!
YES! HERE I AM!
HERE'S A HOT ONE FOR YOU, CAPTAIN AMERICA!
A TERRIFIC LEFT TO THE JAW SENDS THE GARGOYLE OVERBOARD!
AND THIS OUGHT TO COOL YOU OFF!

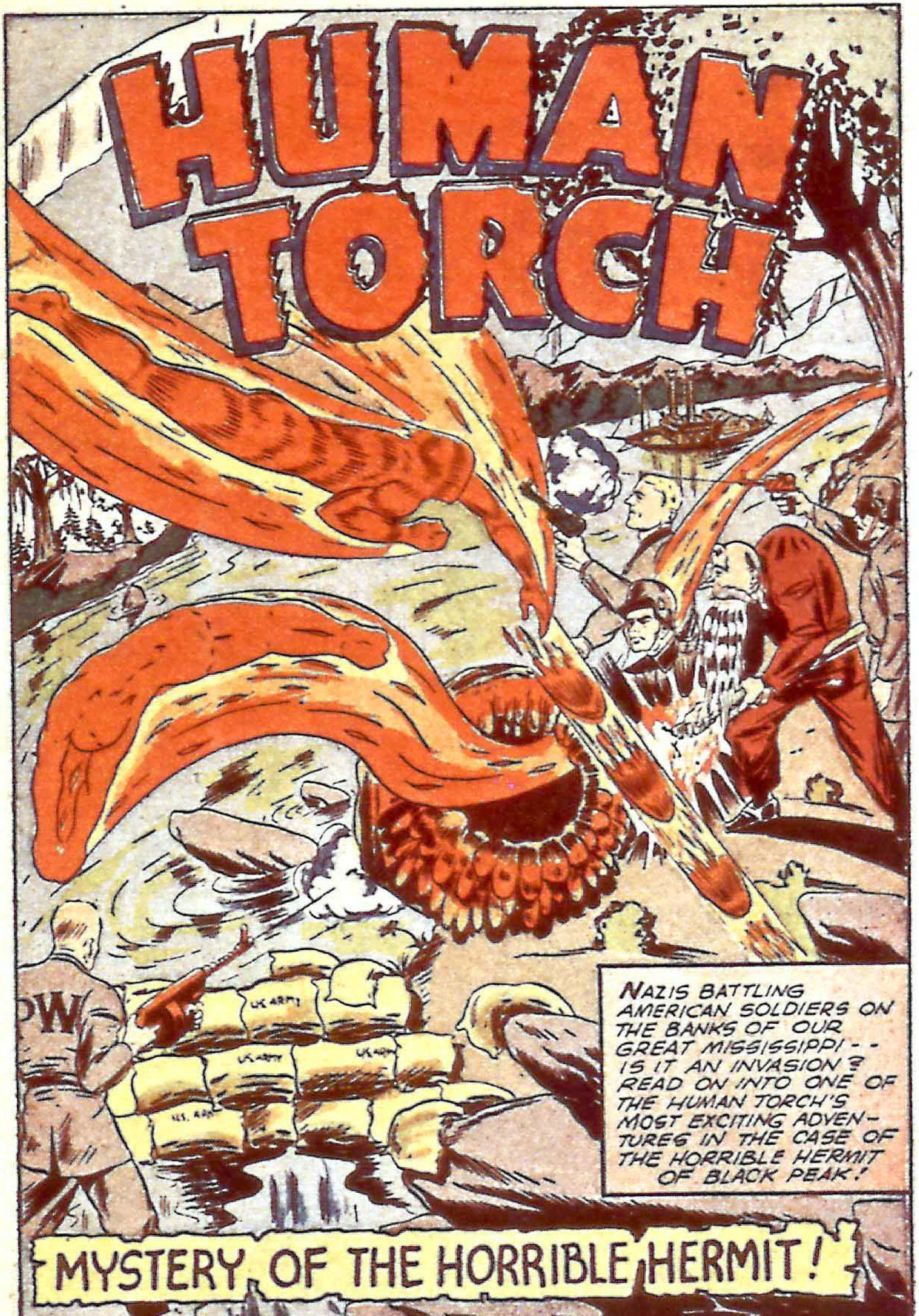

AND MEANWHILE ON SHORE, AS BUCKY WATCHES THE FIGHT IN THE ROWBOAT--HE FORGETS CAP'S COMMAND TO STAY HIDDEN!
SOCK HIM, CAP! SOCK HIM!
AND SUDDENLY FROM NEAR AT HAND---
HEY! WHAT TH--!
AND BACK IN THE ROWBOAT---
QUEER! HE'S BEEN UNDERWATER A COUPLE OF MINUTES ALREADY! HE OUGHT TO COME TO THE SURFACE--WH-WHY---THAT'S BUCKY'S CRY! I TOLD HIM TO STAY HIDDEN!
CAP MAKES HIS DECISION!
LET HIM GO! MORE IMPORTANT FOR ME TO HELP BUCKY--- I'M COMING, KID!
MEANWHILE--WITH A GREAT LUNG CAPACITY, THE GARGOYLE SWIMS POWERFULLY UNDERWATER!
--BUT CAPTAIN AMERICA IS TOO LATE---THE BLACK SPEEDBOAT SWEEPS PAST WITH BUCKY AND ANNE AS PRISONERS OF THE NAZIS!
CAP! CAP!
HEH! HEH!
SMACK!
PRESENTLY--THE SPEEDBOAT PICKS UP THE GARGOYLE WHO HAS RISEN TO THE SURFACE---
YE HAF DER GIRL HERE, MASTER!
GOOD!
THEY'RE HEADING FOR THEIR ISLAND! I KNOW IT'S LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE! NOW IF I CAN GET THAT MOTOR BOAT--

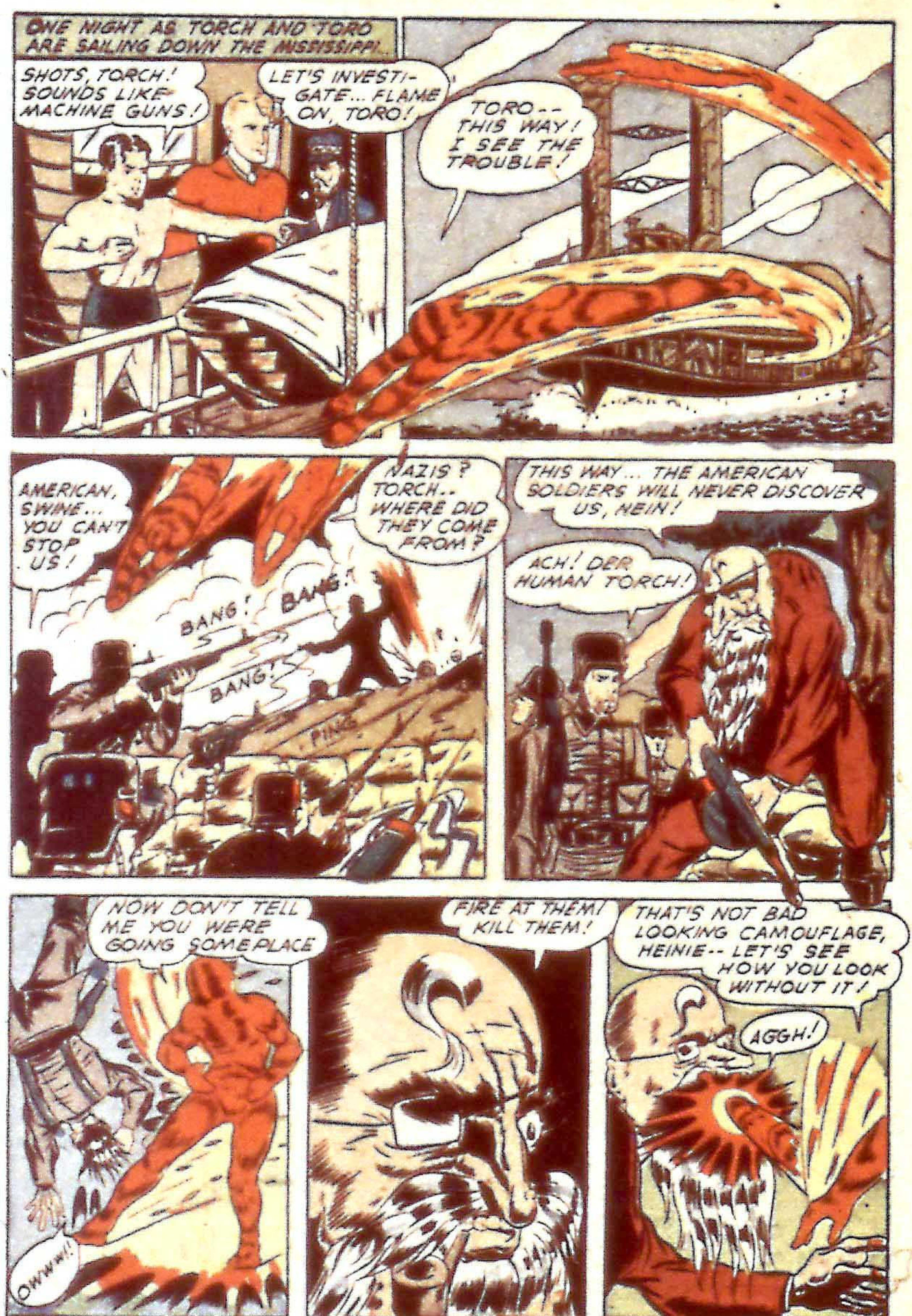

A SHORT WHILE LATER--CAP SPEEDS OUT TO SEA IN THE BORROWED MOTORBOAT!
ONLY SOME FIFTY MILES--NOT VERY LONG AT THIS RATE!
AT THE DESIGNATED SPOT---
NO ISLAND! BUT THIS IS THE PLACE! THAT OLD TORPEDOED TANKER--EVIDENTLY THAT'S THEIR HIDEOUT!
WITH MOTOR OFF, CAP SLIDES SILENTLY UP TO THE FIRE-GUTTED WRECK!
WHILE AT THAT MOMENT--ON THE TANKER---
DO NOT BE AFRAID OF ME LITTLE LADY! I AM COURTESY ITSELF! ALL I WANT IS TO HAVE YOU TELL ME WHERE YOUR FATHER'S FORMULA IS HIDDEN----
SAY NOTHING, ANN!
I-I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOU! AND YOU--YOU WON'T HURT FATHER? OH, PLEASE--
BRAVELY, TO APPEAR NOT FRIGHTENED, WITH AN INSTINCTIVE MOVEMENT, THE GIRL TAKES OUT HER COMPACT!
YOU--YOU SEEM DIFFERENT FROM THESE NAZIS! DON'T-I MEAN I HOPE YOU WON'T HURT FATHER AND ME!
NOT IF YOU TELL ME WHERE THAT FORMULA IS HIDDEN! THAT'S RIGHT--POWDER YOUR NOSE--ALL WOMEN ARE COMFORTED BY KNOWING THEY LOOK THEIR BEST!
AND SUDDENLY--THE THING SIR ANTHONY FEARS---
MICROFILM! SO YOU HAD IT ON YOUR PERSONAL ALL THE TIME! THE SECRETS I'M AFTER!
OH!
AND A MOMENT LATER, AS CAP GAZES IN THROUGH A PORT HOLE--
WE'LL GO NOW! AND IN A FEW MINUTES, THIS WILL ATTEND TO YOU! THANK YOU FOR THE DETAILS OF YOUR INVENTION, SIR ANTHONY!

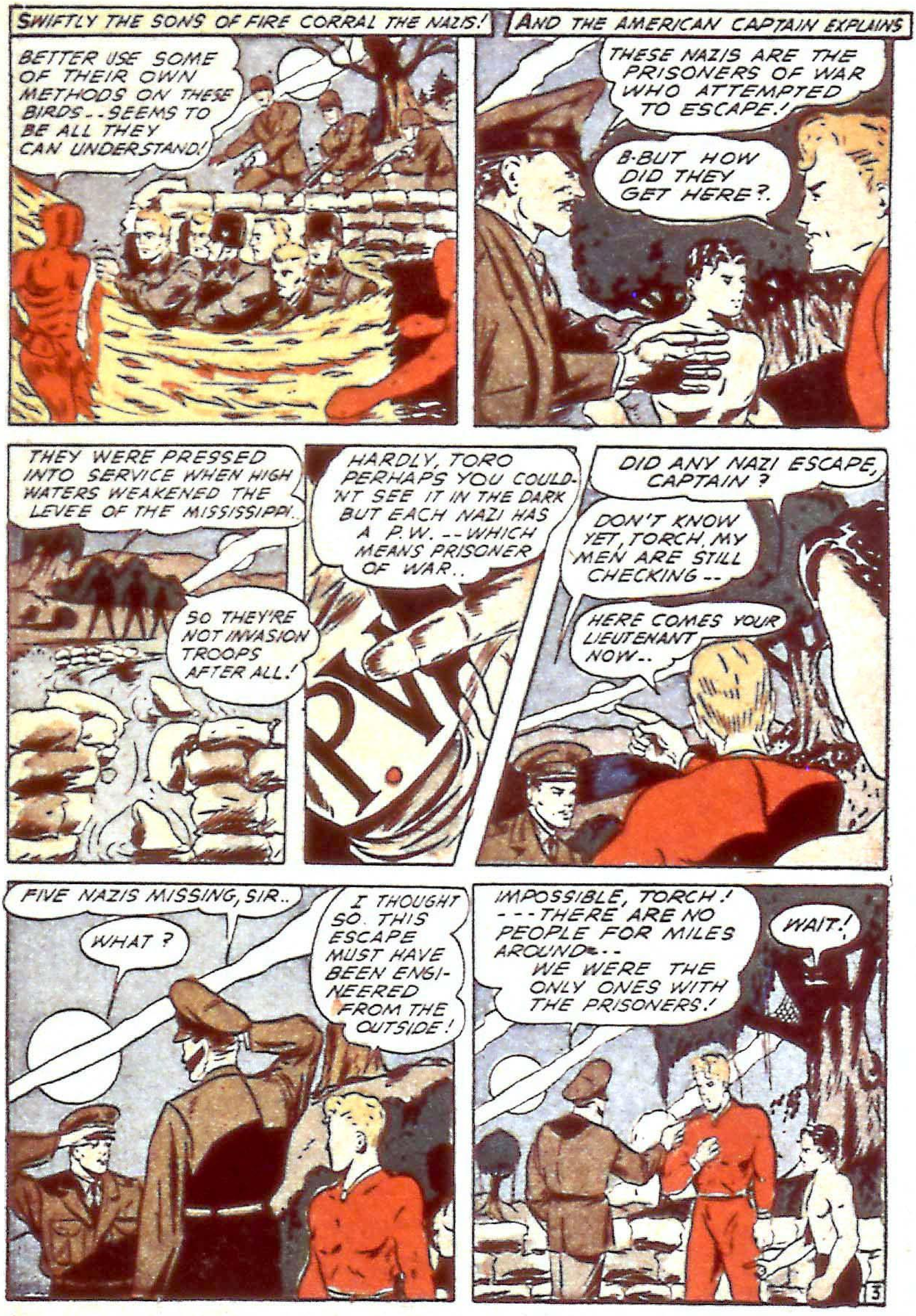

WHEN THAT EXPLODES, I'LL BE FAR AWAY, HEADING TO CONTACT A U-BOAT IN THE CARIBBEAN! AND SOON YOUR INVENTION WILL BE IN BERLIN!--- WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE GARGOYLE TO HITLER!
CRASHING THRU THE PORTHOLE, CAP MAKES FOR THE MENACING BOMB!
WHY--- IT'S CAP! YAHOO!
AND A FEW MOMENTS LATER--AFTER UNTYING THE GROUP--
YOU STAY HERE WITH HER, SIR ANTHONY! BUCKY AND I WILL ATTEND TO THIS!
AN' IT WON'T TAKE LONG EITHER!
INTO THE SHIP CORRIDOR-
OUT OF OUR WAY-- WE'RE IN A HURRY!
--AND ONTO THE DECK OF THE TANKER---
THERE HE GOES, CAP--TRYIN' TO MAKE A GETAWAY IN THAT HELICOPTER!
GET HIM, CAP! GET HIM! HE'S GETTIN' AWAY!
THE SMALL HELICOPTER STARTS TO RISE AS CAP MAKE A FLYING LEAP-----

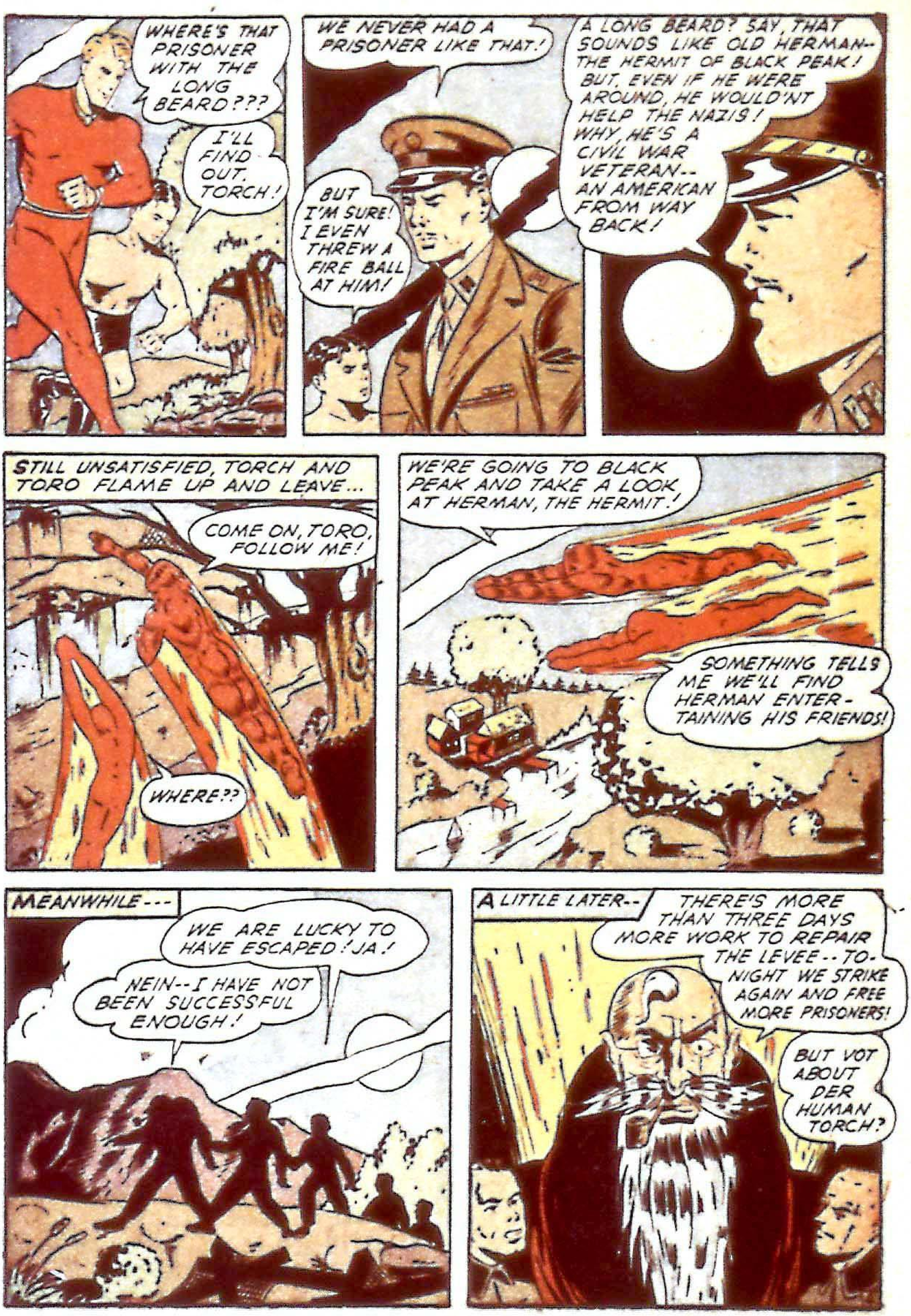

CLINGING PRECARIOUSLY TO THE SWAYING, RISING HELICOPTER, CAP MAKES FOR THE COCKPIT!
WE'LL FINISH THIS NOW, GARGOYLE!
TWO POWERFUL BODIES--LIKE FEROCIOUS BEASTS IN COMBAT TO THE DEATH---LUNGE AT EACH OTHER--WRECKING THE CONTROLS WHICH CAUSES FIRE TO BREAK OUT!
THE FLAMING HELICOPTER---WITH ITS TWO BATTLERS--FALLS TOWARD THE OCEAN!
AND THEN SUDDENLY, CAP'S FIST FINDS ITS MARK!
CRACK!
CAP DESPERATELY LUNGES FREE OF THE BURNING WRECKAGE, DRAGGING THE UNCONSCIOUS GARGOYLE WITH HIM---!
A FEW MINUTES LATER--
HE'S RECOVERING CONSCIOUSNESS! GET SOME ROPE, BUCKY! WE'LL TIE HIM, HIM UP! TAKE NO CHANCES!
RIGHT, CAP!

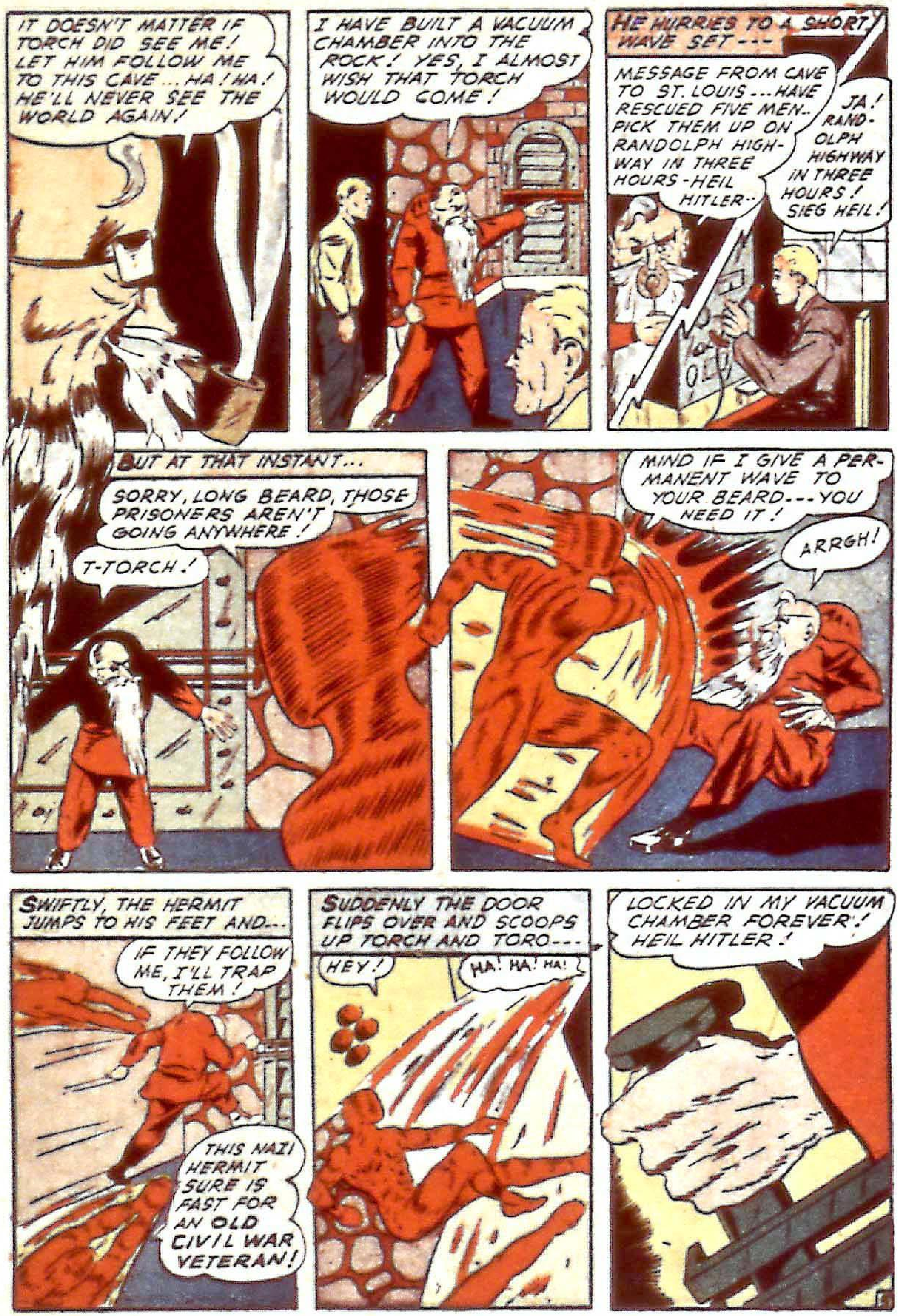

THE MOTORBOAT SPEEDS BACK FOR THE SOUTH FLORIDA SHORE!
YOU HANG ON TO THAT MICROFILM THIS TIME, SIR ANTHONY! YOU'LL BE WELL GUARDED FROM NOW ON!
WHEW! WHAT A PUSS!
--AND YOU THINK I CAN BE KEPT A PRISONER! HA! YOU'LL SEE--WE'LL MEET AGAIN CAPTAIN AMERICA!
DAWN! AT THE AIRPORT!
TAKE YOUR MICROFILM TO THE WAR DEPARTMENT, SIR ANTHONY--GOOD LUCK TO YOU!
WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH, CAPTAIN AMERICA! --AND YOU TOO, BUCKY!
MY FIRST EFFORT--A FAILURE! THAT ACCURSED CAPTAIN AMERICA! I SWEAR NOW THAT THE GARGOYLE'S LIFE SHALL BE DEVOTED TO KILLING HIM!
THE PLANE ROARS AWAY, BEARING SIR ANTHONY AND HIS WAR INVENTION!
WELL, BUCKY, LET'S GET BACK TO CAMP--I'D LIKE TO HIT THE HAY!
YEAH! BUT IF THE SARGE SPOTS US WE'LL PROBABLY HIT THE SPUDS! HO-HUM!
The End

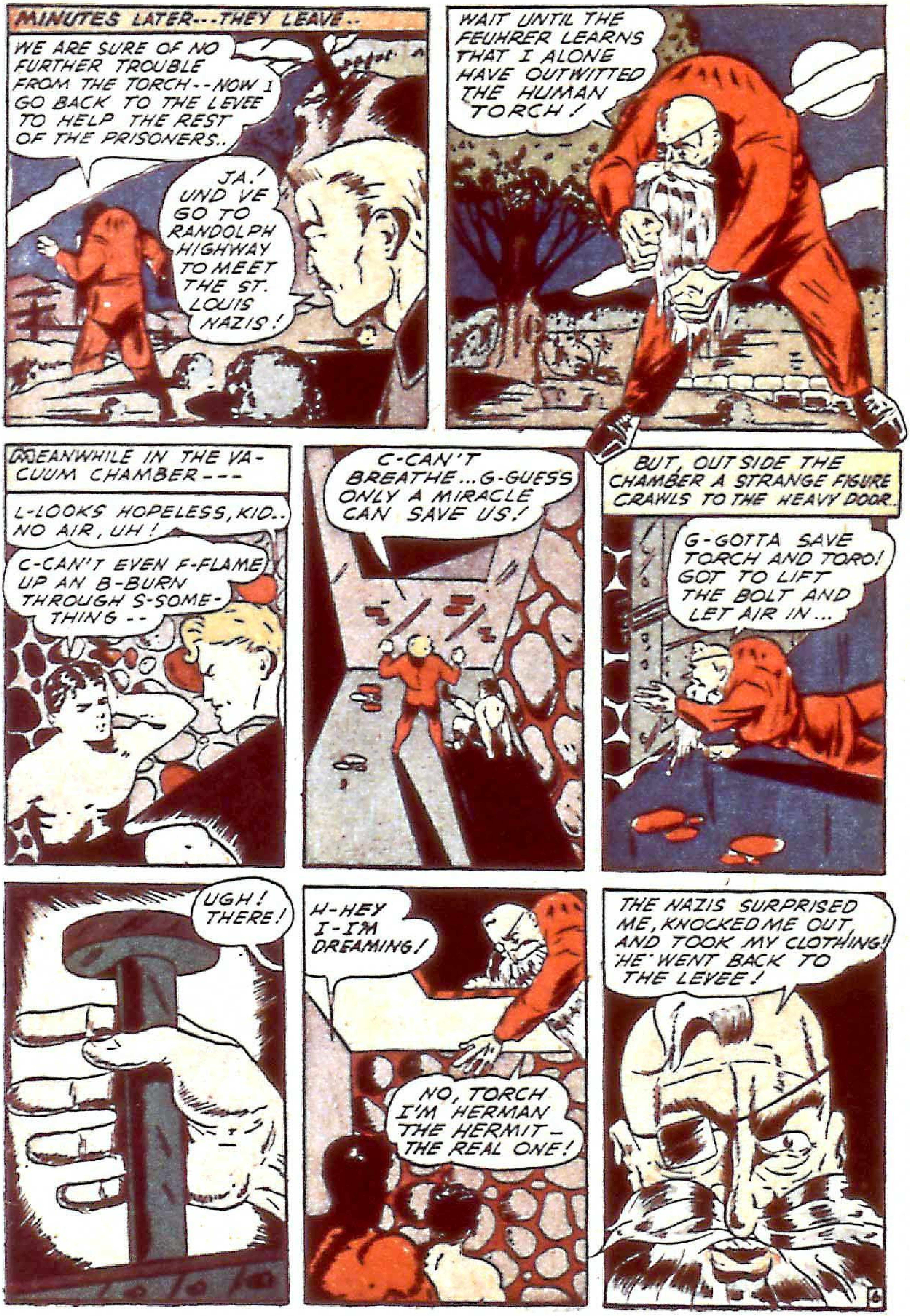

HUMAN TORCH
NAZIS BATTLING AMERICAN SOLDIERS ON THE BANKS OF OUR GREAT MISSISSIPPI - - IS IT AN INVASION? READ ON INTO ONE OF THE HUMAN TORCH'S MOST EXCITING ADVENTURES IN THE CASE OF THE HORRIBLE HERMIT OF BLACK PEAK!
U.S. ARMY
U.S. ARMY
U.S. ARMY
U.S. ARMY
MYSTERY OF THE HORRIBLE HERMIT!

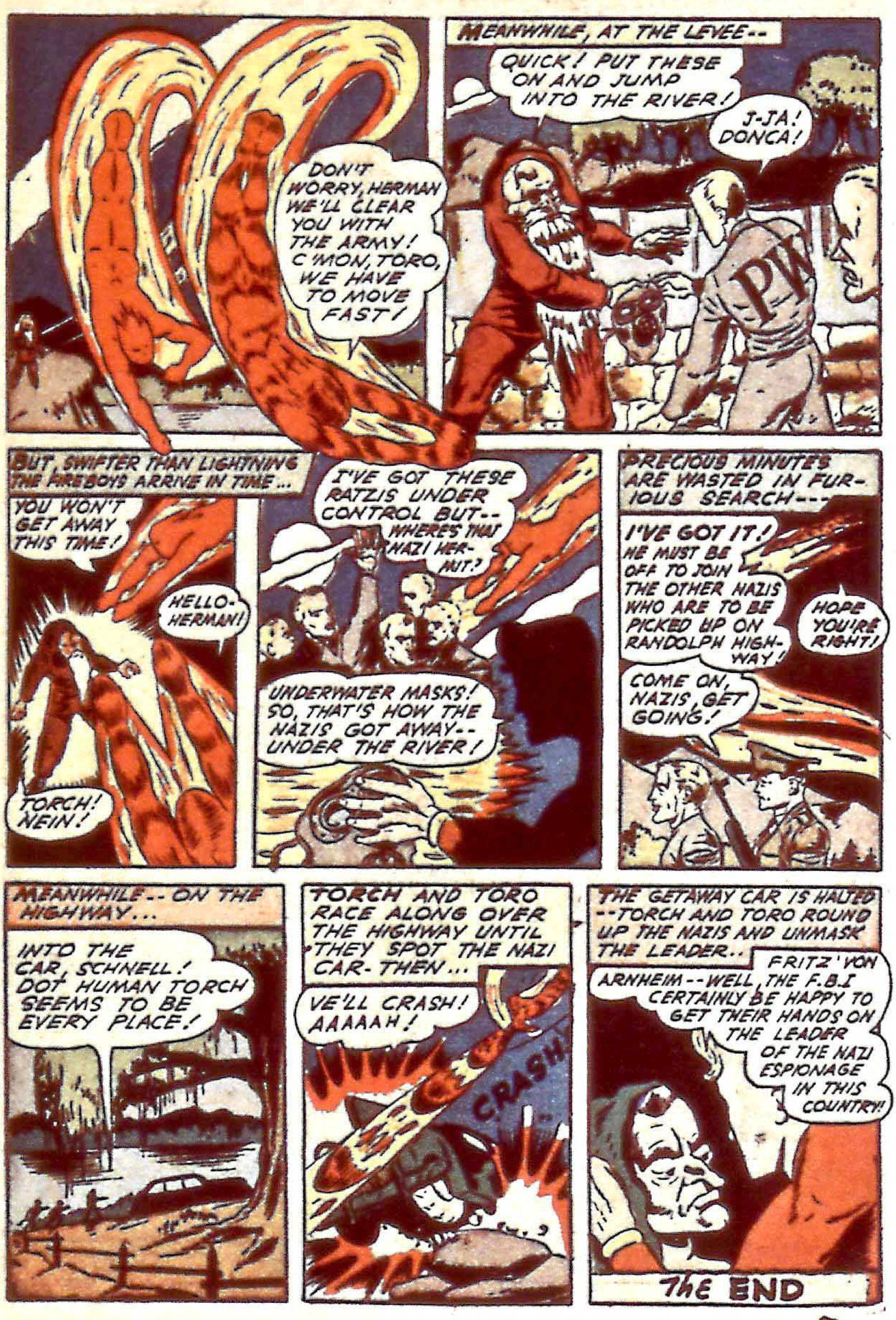

ONE NIGHT AS TORCH AND TORO ARE SAILING DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI.
SHOTS, TORCH! SOUNDS LIKE MACHINE GUNS!
LET'S INVESTIGATE... FLAME ON, TORO!
TORO-- THIS WAY! I SEE THE TROUBLE!
AMERICAN, SWINE... YOU CAN'T STOP US!
NAZIS? TORCH.. WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?
BANG!
BANG!
BANG!
PING
THIS WAY... THE AMERICAN SOLDIERS WILL NEVER DISCOVER US, NEIN!
ACH! DER HUMAN TORCH!
NOW DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE GOING SOMEPLACE
OWWW!
FIRE AT THEM! KILL THEM!
THAT'S NOT BAD LOOKING CAMOUFLAGE, HEINIE-- LET'S SEE HOW YOU LOOK WITHOUT IT!
AGGH!

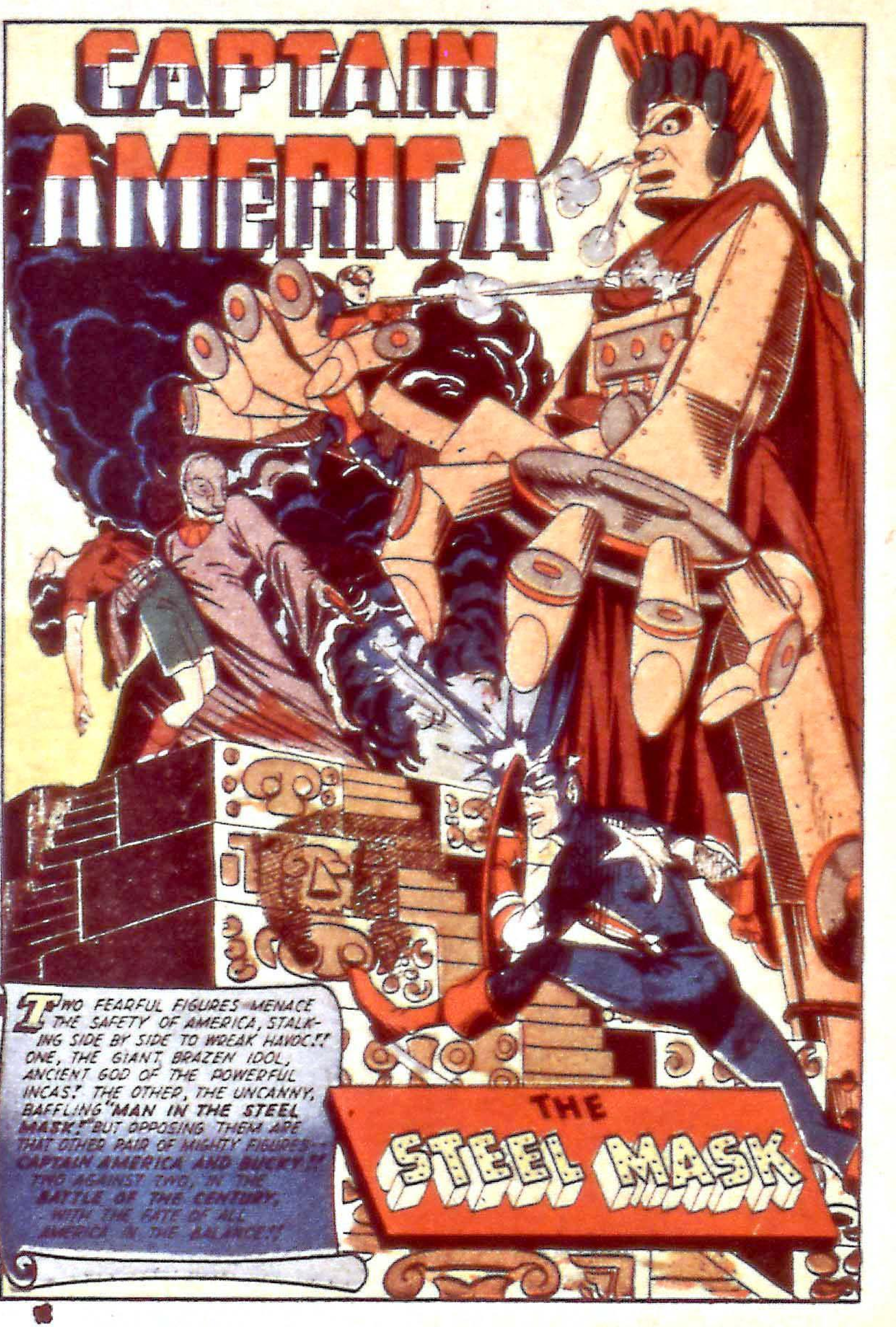

SWIFTLY THE SONS OF FIRE CORRAL THE NAZIS!
BETTER USE SOME OF THEIR OWN METHODS ON THESE BIRDS..-SEEMS TO BE ALL THEY CAN UNDERSTAND!
AND THE AMERICAN CAPTAIN EXPLAINS
THESE NAZIS ARE THE PRISONERS OF WAR WHO ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE!
B-BUT HOW DID THEY GET HERE?.
THEY WERE PRESSED INTO SERVICE WHEN HIGH WATERS WEAKENED THE LEVEE OF THE MISSISSIPPI.
SO THEY'RE NOT INVASION TROOPS AFTER ALL!
HARDLY, TORO PERHAPS YOU COULDN'T SEE IT IN THE DARK BUT EACH NAZI HAS A P.W. --WHICH MEANS PRISONER OF WAR..
P.W.
DID ANY NAZI ESCAPE, CAPTAIN?
DON'T KNOW YET, TORCH, MY MEN ARE STILL CHECKING--
HERE COMES YOUR LIEUTENANT NOW..
FIVE NAZIS MISSING, SIR..
WHAT?
I THOUGHT SO. THIS ESCAPE MUST HAVE BEEN ENGINEERED FROM THE OUTSIDE!
IMPOSSIBLE, TORCH! ---THERE ARE NO PEOPLE FOR MILES AROUND--
WE WERE THE ONLY ONES WITH THE PRISONERS!
WAIT!

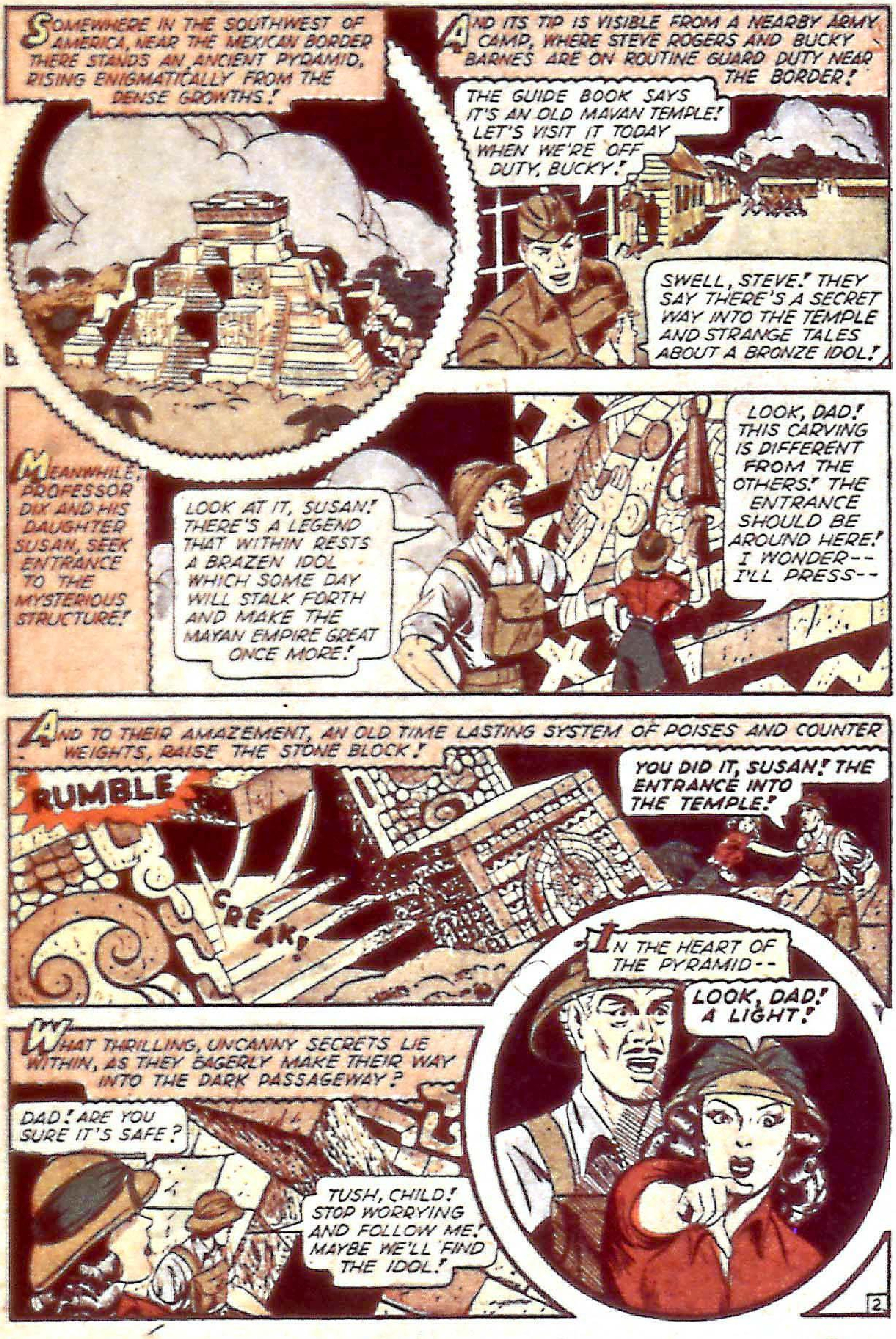

WHERE'S THAT PRISONER WITH THE LONG BEARD???
I'LL FIND OUT, TORCH!
WE NEVER HAD A PRISONER LIKE THAT!
BUT I'M SURE! I EVEN THREW A FIRE BALL AT HIM!
A LONG BEARD? SAY, THAT SOUNDS LIKE OLD HERMAN-- THE HERMIT OF BLACK PEAK! BUT, EVEN IF HE WERE AROUND, HE WOULD'NT HELP THE NAZIS! WHY, HE'S A CIVIL WAR VETERAN-- AN AMERICAN FROM WAY BACK!
STILL UNSATISFIED, TORCH AND TORO FLAME UP AND LEAVE...
COME ON, TORO, FOLLOW ME!
WHERE??
WE'RE GOING TO BLACK PEAK AND TAKE A LOOK AT HERMAN, THE HERMIT!
SOMETHING TELLS ME WE'LL FIND HERMAN ENTERTAINING HIS FRIENDS!
MEANWHILE---
WE ARE LUCKY TO HAVE ESCAPED! JA!
NEIN--I HAVE NOT BEEN SUCCESSFUL ENOUGH!
A LITTLE LATER--
THERE'S MORE THAN THREE DAYS MORE WORK TO REPAIR THE LEVEE--TONIGHT WE STRIKE AGAIN AND FREE MORE PRISONERS!
BUT VOT ABOUT DER HUMAN TORCH?

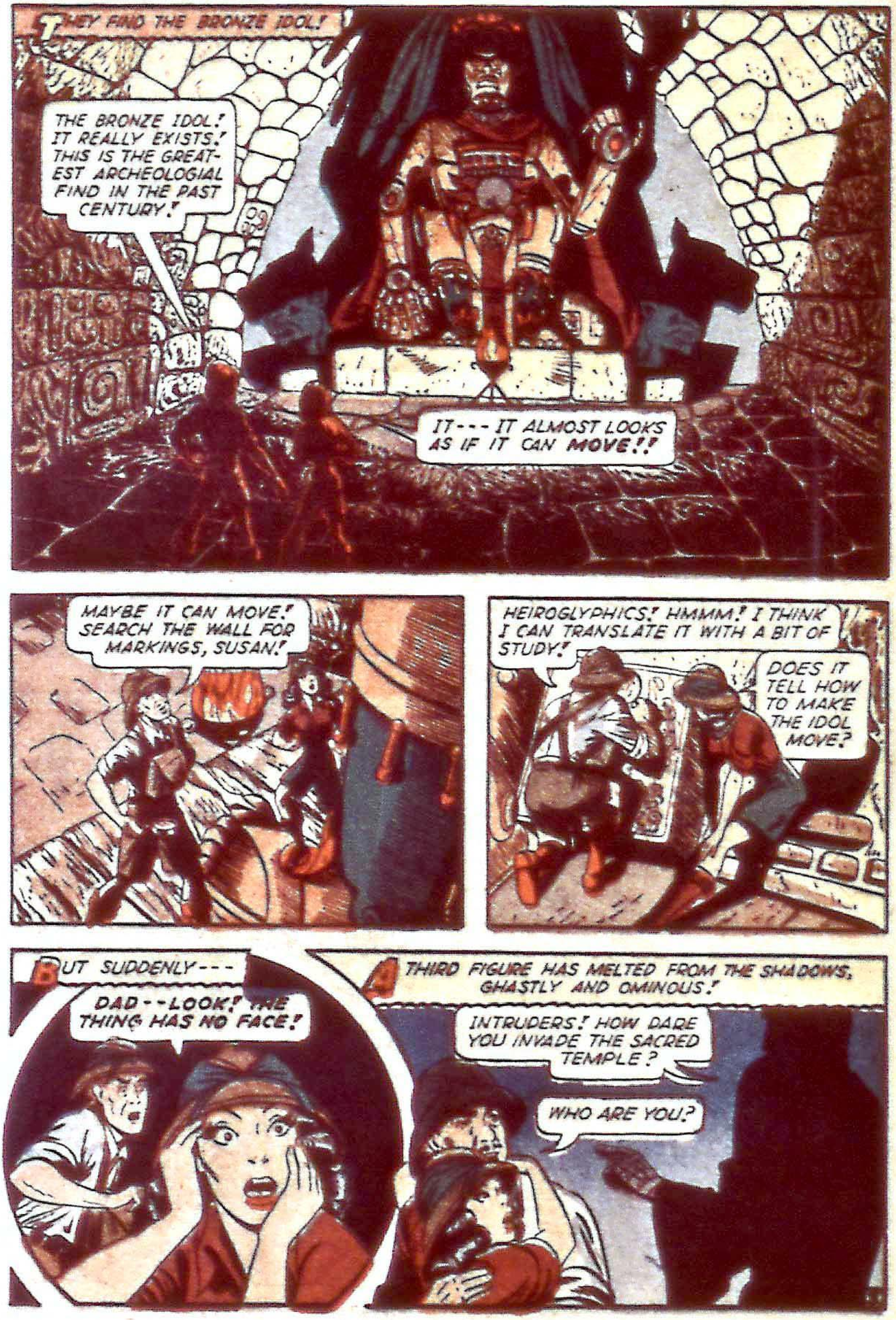

IT DOESN'T MATTER IF TORCH DID SEE ME! LET HIM FOLLOW ME TO THIS CAVE... HA! HA! HE'LL NEVER SEE THE WORLD AGAIN!
I HAVE BUILT A VACUUM CHAMBER INTO THE ROCK! YES, I ALMOST WISH THAT TORCH WOULD COME!
HE HURRIES TO A SHORT WAVE SET---
MESSAGE FROM CAVE TO ST. LOUIS...HAVE RESCUED FIVE MEN.. PICK THEM UP ON RANDOLPH HIGHWAY IN THREE HOURS-HEIL HITLER..
JA! RANDOLPH HIGHWAY IN THREE HOURS! SIEG HEIL!
BUT AT THAT INSTANT...
SORRY, LONG BEARD, THOSE PRISONERS AREN'T GOING ANYWHERE!
T-TORCH!
MIND IF I GIVE A PERMANENT WAVE TO YOUR BEARD---YOU NEED IT!
ARRGH!
SWIFTLY, THE HERMIT JUMPS TO HIS FEET AND...
IF THEY FOLLOW ME, I'LL TRAP THEM!
THIS NAZI HERMIT SURE IS FAST FOR AN OLD CIVIL WAR VETERAN!
SUDDENLY THE DOOR FLIPS OVER AND SCOOPS UP TORCH AND TORO---
HEY!
HA! HA! HA!
LOCKED IN MY VACUUM CHAMBER FOREVER! HEIL HITLER!

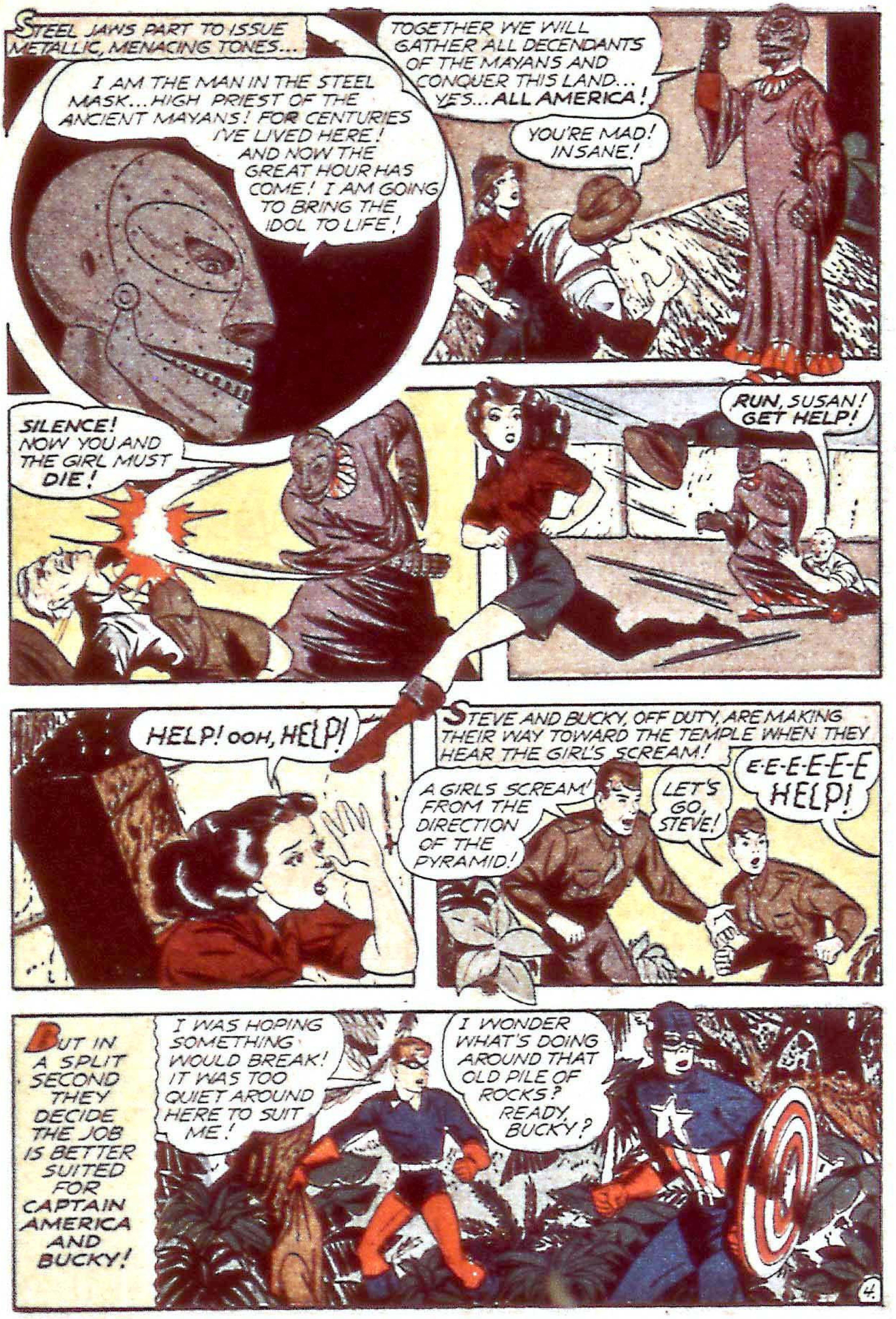

MINUTES LATER---THEY LEAVE..
WE ARE SURE OF NO FURTHER TROUBLE FROM THE TORCH--NOW I GO BACK TO THE LEVEE TO HELP THE REST OF THE PRISONERS..
JA! UND VE GO TO RANDOLPH HIGHWAY TO MEET THE ST. LOUIS NAZIS!
WAIT UNTIL THE FEUHRER LEARNS THAT I ALONE HAVE OUTWITTED THE HUMAN TORCH!
MEANWHILE IN THE VACUUM CHAMBER---
L-LOOKS HOPELESS, KID.. NO AIR, UH!
C-CAN'T EVEN F-FLAME UP AN B-BURN THROUGH S-SOMETHING--
C-CAN'T BREATHE...G-GUESS ONLY A MIRACLE CAN SAVE US!
BUT, OUTSIDE THE CHAMBER A STRANGE FIGURE CRAWLS TO THE HEAVY DOOR..
G-GOTTA SAVE TORCH AND TORO! GOT TO LIFT THE BOLT AND LET AIR IN...
UGH! THERE!
H-HEY I-I'M DREAMING!
NO, TORCH I'M HERMAN THE HERMIT-THE REAL ONE!
THE NAZIS SURPRISED ME, KNOCKED ME OUT AND TOOK MY CLOTHING! "HE" WENT BACK TO THE LEVEE!

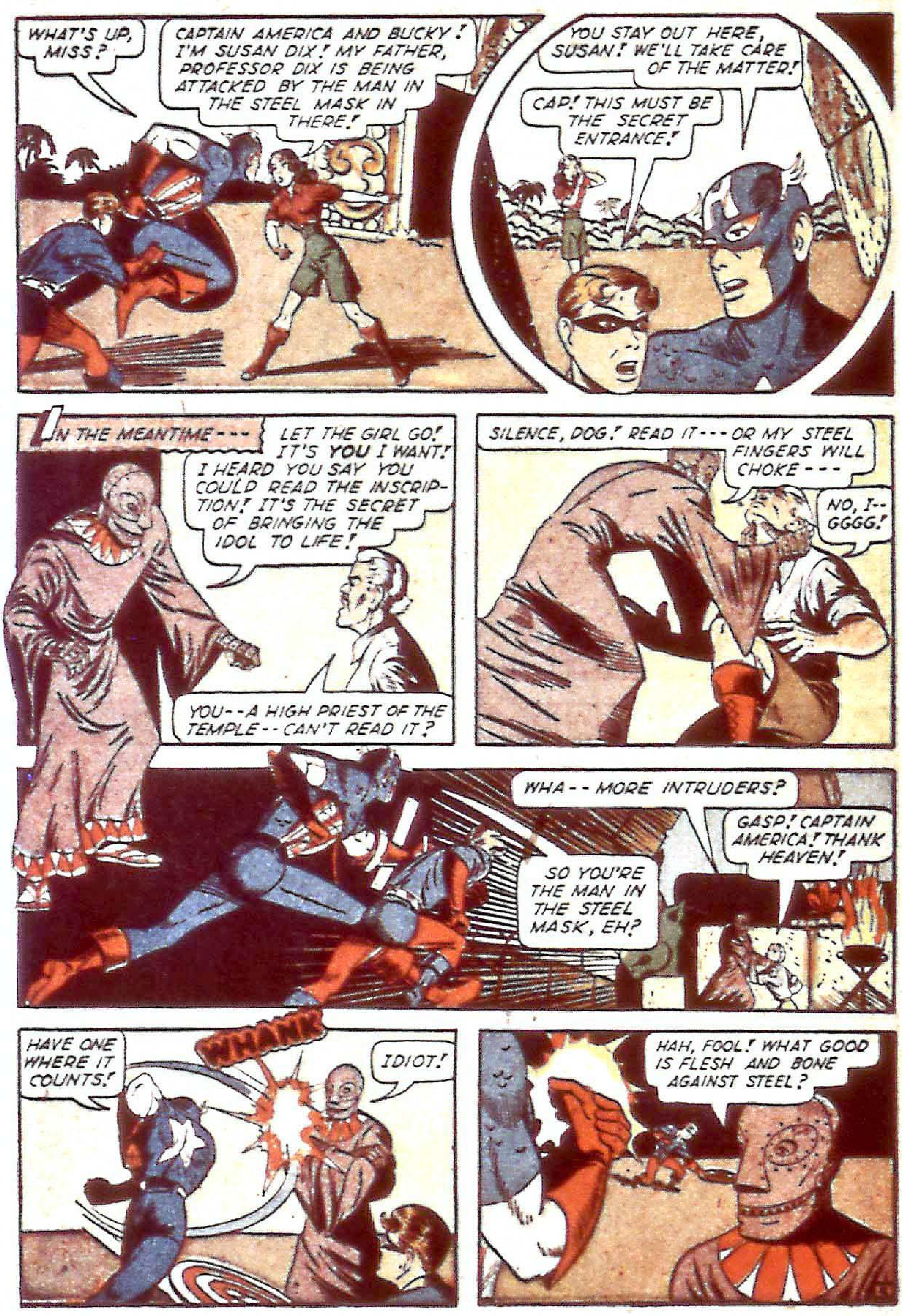

DON'T WORRY, HERMAN WE'LL CLEAR YOU WITH THE ARMY! C'MON, TORO, WE HAVE TO MOVE FAST!
MEANWHILE, AT THE LEVEE--
QUICK! PUT THESE ON AND JUMP INTO THE RIVER!
J-JA! DONCA!
PW
BUT, SWIFTER THAN LIGHTNING THE FIREBOYS ARRIVE IN TIME...
YOU WON'T GET AWAY THIS TIME!
HELLO-HERMAN!
TORCH! NEIN!
I'VE GOT THESE RATZIS UNDER CONTROL BUT-- WHERE'S THAT NAZI HERMIT?
UNDERWATER MASKS! SO, THAT'S HOW THE NAZIS GOT AWAY-- UNDER THE RIVER!
PRECIOUS MINUTES ARE WASTED IN FURIOUS SEARCH---
I'VE GOT IT! HE MUST BE OFF TO JOIN THE OTHER NAZIS WHO ARE TO BE PICKED UP ON RANDOLPH HIGHWAY!
HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT!
COME ON, NAZIS, GET GOING!
MEANWHILE-- ON THE HIGHWAY...
INTO THE CAR, SCHNELL! DOT HUMAN TORCH SEEMS TO BE EVERY PLACE!
TORCH AND TORO RACE ALONG OVER THE HIGHWAY UNTIL THEY SPOT THE NAZI CAR- THEN...
VE'LL CRASH! AAAAAH!
CRASH!
THE GETAWAY CAR IS HALTED --TORCH AND TORO ROUND UP THE NAZIS AND UNMASK THE LEADER..
FRITZ VON ARNHEIM--WELL, THE F.B.I CERTAINLY BE HAPPY TO GET THEIR HANDS ON THE LEADER OF THE NAZI ESPIONAGE IN THIS COUNTRY!
THE END

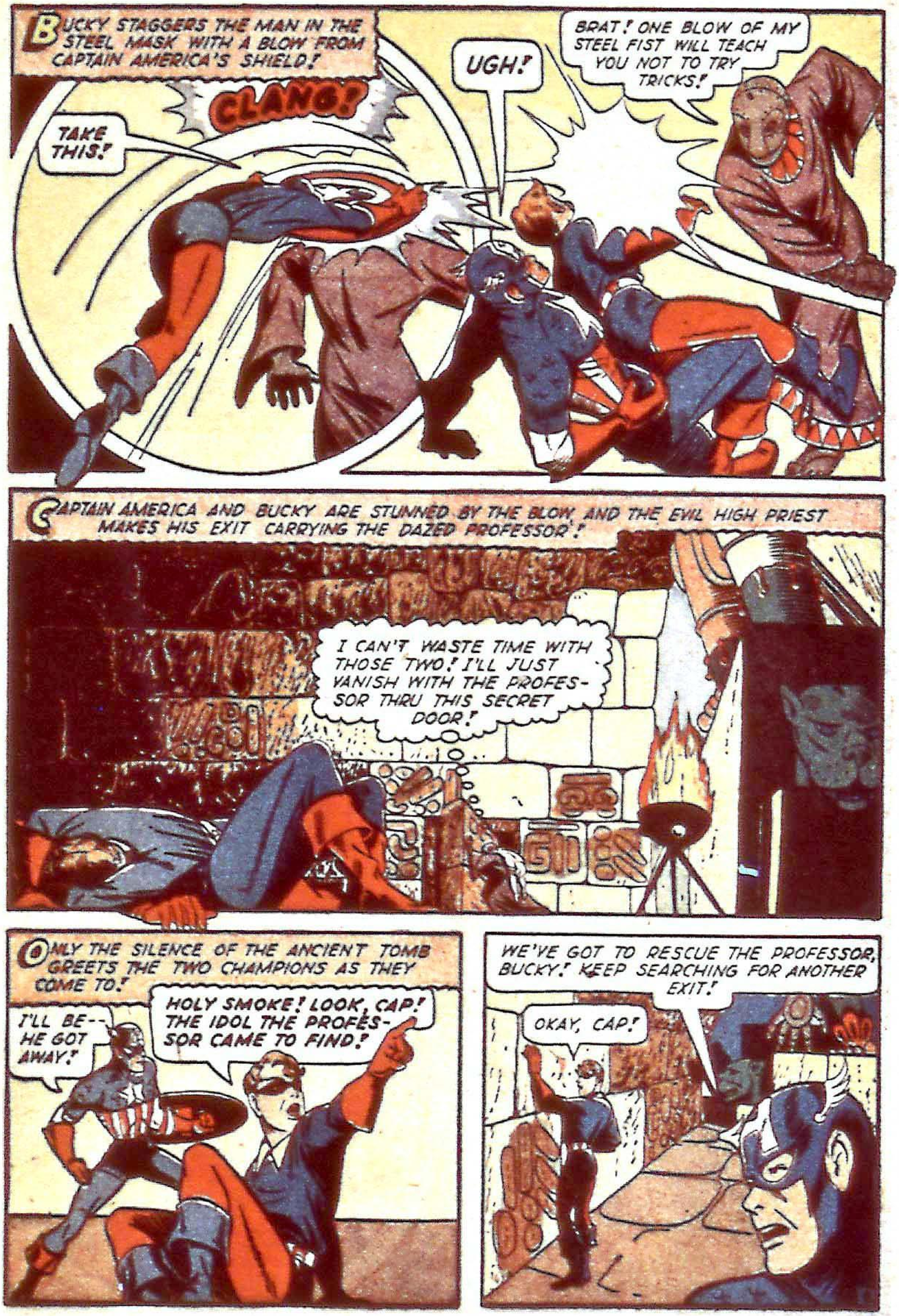

CAPTAIN AMERICA
TWO FEARFUL FIGURES MENACE THE SAFETY OF AMERICA, STALKING SIDE BY SIDE TO WREAK HAVOC!! ONE, THE GIANT, BRAZEN IDOL, ANCIENT GOD OF THE POWERFUL INCAS! THE OTHER, THE UNCANNY, BAFFLING "MAN IN THE STEEL MASK!" BUT OPPOSING THEM ARE THAT OTHER PAIR OF MIGHTY FIGURES-- CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY!! TWO AGAINST TWO, IN THE BATTLE OF THE CENTURY, WITH THE FATE OF ALL AMERICA IN THE BALANCE!!
THE STEEL MASK

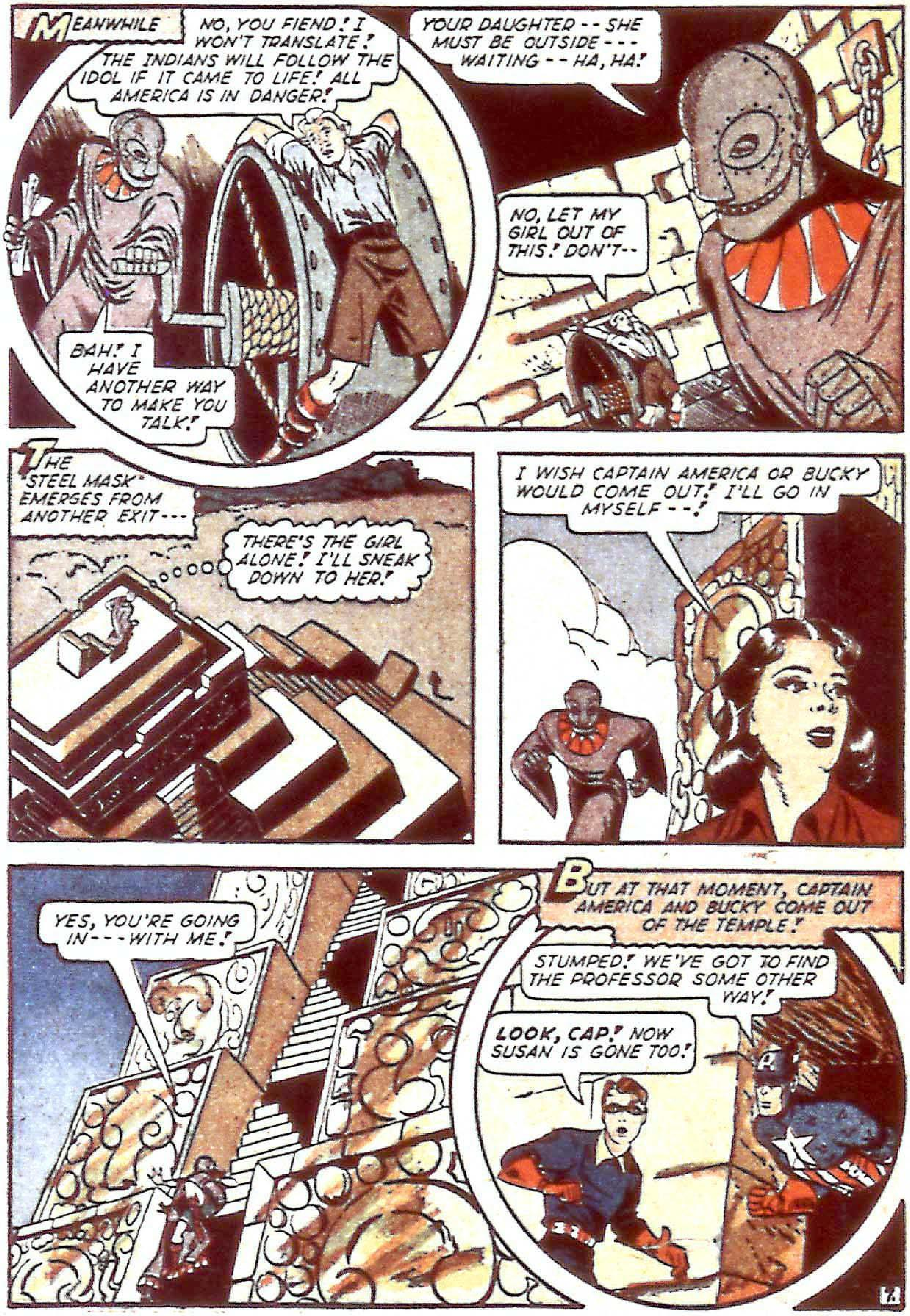

SOMEWHERE IN THE SOUTHWEST OF AMERICA, NEAR THE MEXICAN BORDER THERE STANDS AN ANCIENT PYRAMID, RISING ENIGMATICALLY FROM THE DENSE GROWTHS!
AND ITS TIP IS VISIBLE FROM A NEARBY ARMY CAMP, WHERE STEVE ROGERS AND BUCKY BARNES ARE ON ROUTINE GUARD DUTY NEAR THE BORDER!
THE GUIDE BOOK SAYS IT'S AN OLD MAVAN TEMPLE! LET'S VISIT IT TODAY WHEN WE'RE OFF DUTY, BUCKY!
SWELL, STEVE! THEY SAY THERE'S A SECRET WAY INTO THE TEMPLE AND STRANGE TALES ABOUT A BRONZE IDOL!
MEANWHILE, PROFESSOR DIX AND HIS DAUGHTER SUSAN, SEEK ENTRANCE TO THE MYSTERIOUS STRUCTURE!
LOOK AT IT, SUSAN! THERE'S A LEGEND THAT WITHIN RESTS A BRAZEN IDOL WHICH SOME DAY WILL STALK FORTH AND MAKE THE MAYAN EMPIRE GREAT ONCE MORE!
LOOK, DAD! THIS CARVING IS DIFFERENT FROM THE OTHERS! THE ENTRANCE SHOULD BE AROUND HERE! I WONDER-- I'LL PRESS--
AND TO THEIR AMAZEMENT, AN OLD TIME LASTING SYSTEM OF POISES AND COUNTER WEIGHTS, RAISE THE STONE BLOCK!
RUMBLE
CREAK!
YOU DID IT, SUSAN! THE ENTRANCE INTO THE TEMPLE!
IN THE HEART OF THE PYRAMID--
LOOK, DAD! A LIGHT!
WHAT THRILLING, UNCANNY SECRETS LIE WITHIN, AS THEY EAGERLY MAKE THEIR WAY INTO THE DARK PASSAGEWAY?
DAD! ARE YOU SURE IT'S SAFE?
TUSH, CHILD! STOP WORRYING AND FOLLOW ME! MAYBE WE'LL FIND THE IDOL!

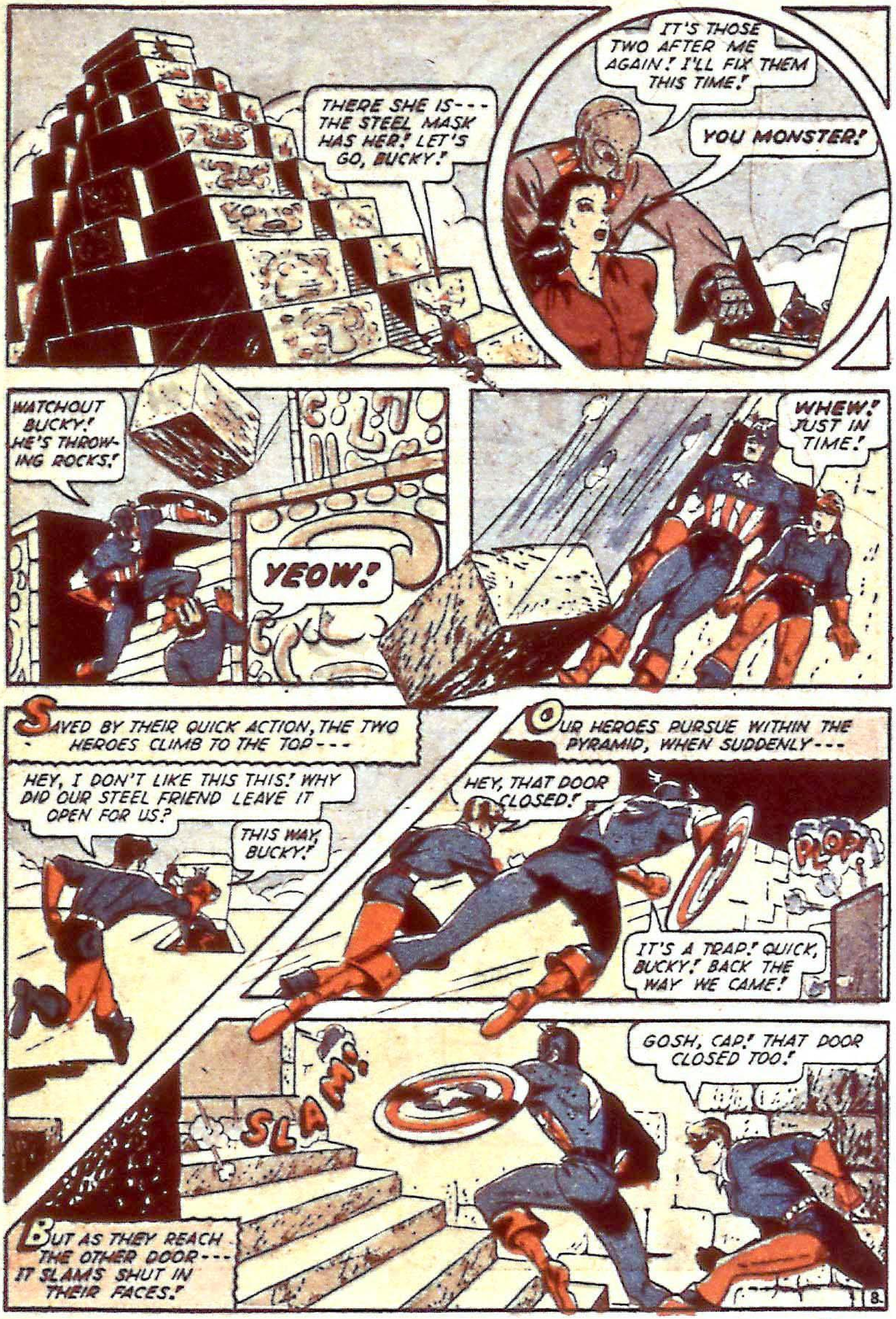

THEY FIND THE BRONZE IDOL!
THE BRONZE IDOL! IT REALLY EXISTS! THIS IS THE GREATEST ARCHEOLOGIAL FIND IN THE PAST CENTURY!
IT--- IT ALMOST LOOKS AS IF IT CAN MOVE!!
MAYBE IT CAN MOVE! SEARCH THE WALL FOR MARKINGS, SUSAN!
HEIROGLYPHICS! HMMM! I THINK I CAN TRANSLATE IT WITH A BIT OF STUDY!
DOES IT TELL HOW TO MAKE THE IDOL MOVE?
BUT SUDDENLY---
DAD--LOOK! THE THING HAS NO FACE!
A THIRD FIGURE HAS MELTED FROM THE SHADOWS, GHASTLY AND OMINOUS!
INTRUDERS! HOW DARE YOU INVADE THE SACRED TEMPLE?
WHO ARE YOU?

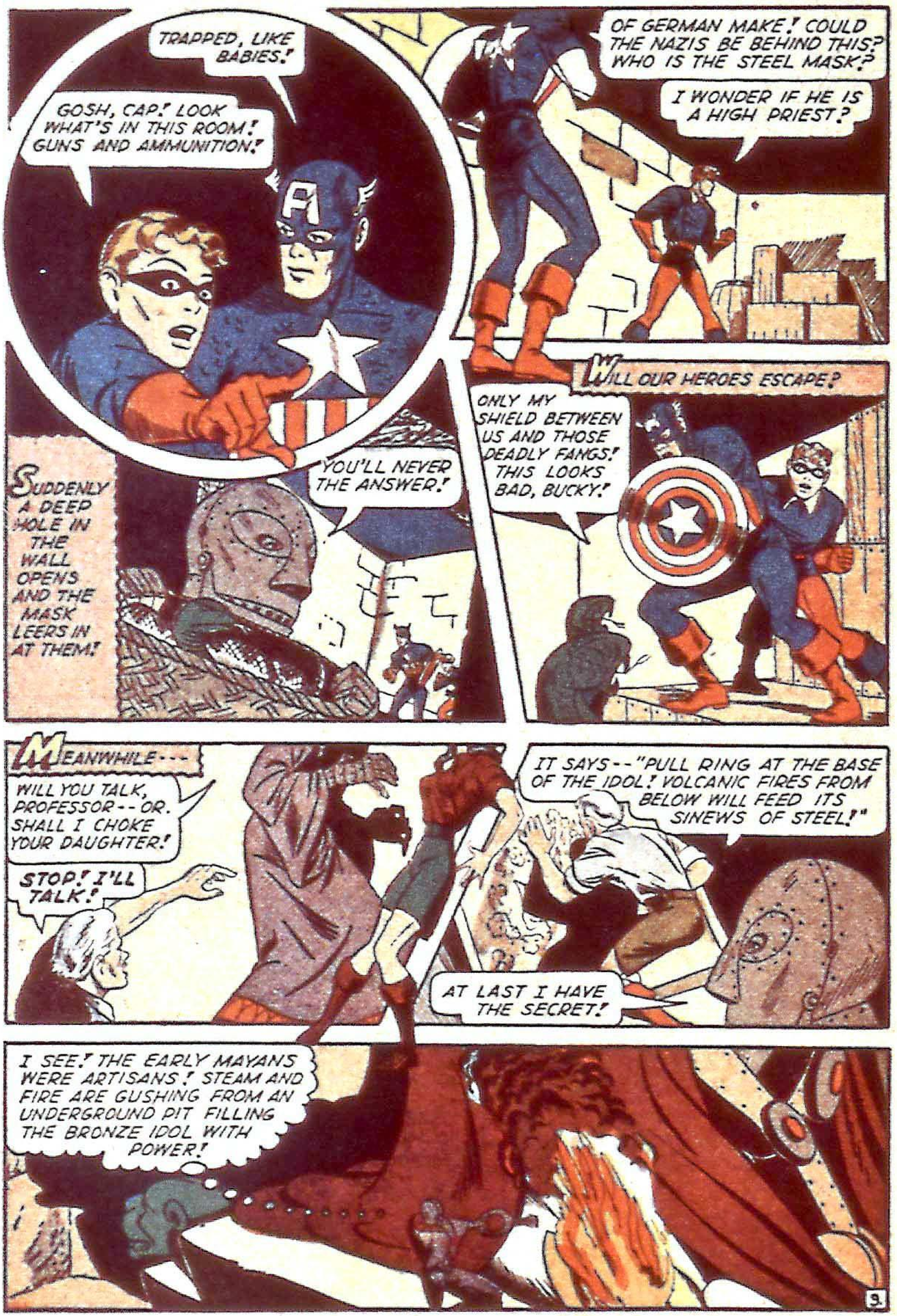

STEEL JAWS PART TO ISSUE METALLIC, MENACING TONES...
I AM THE MAN IN THE STEEL MASK... HIGH PRIEST OF THE ANCIENT MAYANS! FOR CENTURIES I'VE LIVED HERE! AND NOW THE GREAT HOUR HAS COME! I AM GOING TO BRING THE IDOL TO LIFE!
TOGETHER WE WILL GATHER ALL DECENDANTS OF THE MAYANS AND CONQUER THIS LAND... YES... ALL AMERICA!
YOU'RE MAD! INSANE!
SILENCE! NOW YOU AND THE GIRL MUST DIE!
RUN, SUSAN! GET HELP!
HELP! OOH, HELP!
STEVE AND BUCKY, OFF DUTY, ARE MAKING THEIR WAY TOWARD THE TEMPLE WHEN THEY HEAR THE GIRL'S SCREAM!
A GIRLS SCREAM! FROM THE DIRECTION OF THE PYRAMID!
LET'S GO, STEVE!
E-E-E-E-E-E HELP!
BUT IN A SPLIT SECOND THEY DECIDE THE JOB IS BETTER SUITED FOR CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY!
I WAS HOPING SOMETHING WOULD BREAK! IT WAS TOO QUIET AROUND HERE TO SUIT ME!
I WONDER WHAT'S DOING AROUND THAT OLD PILE OF ROCKS? READY, BUCKY?
4

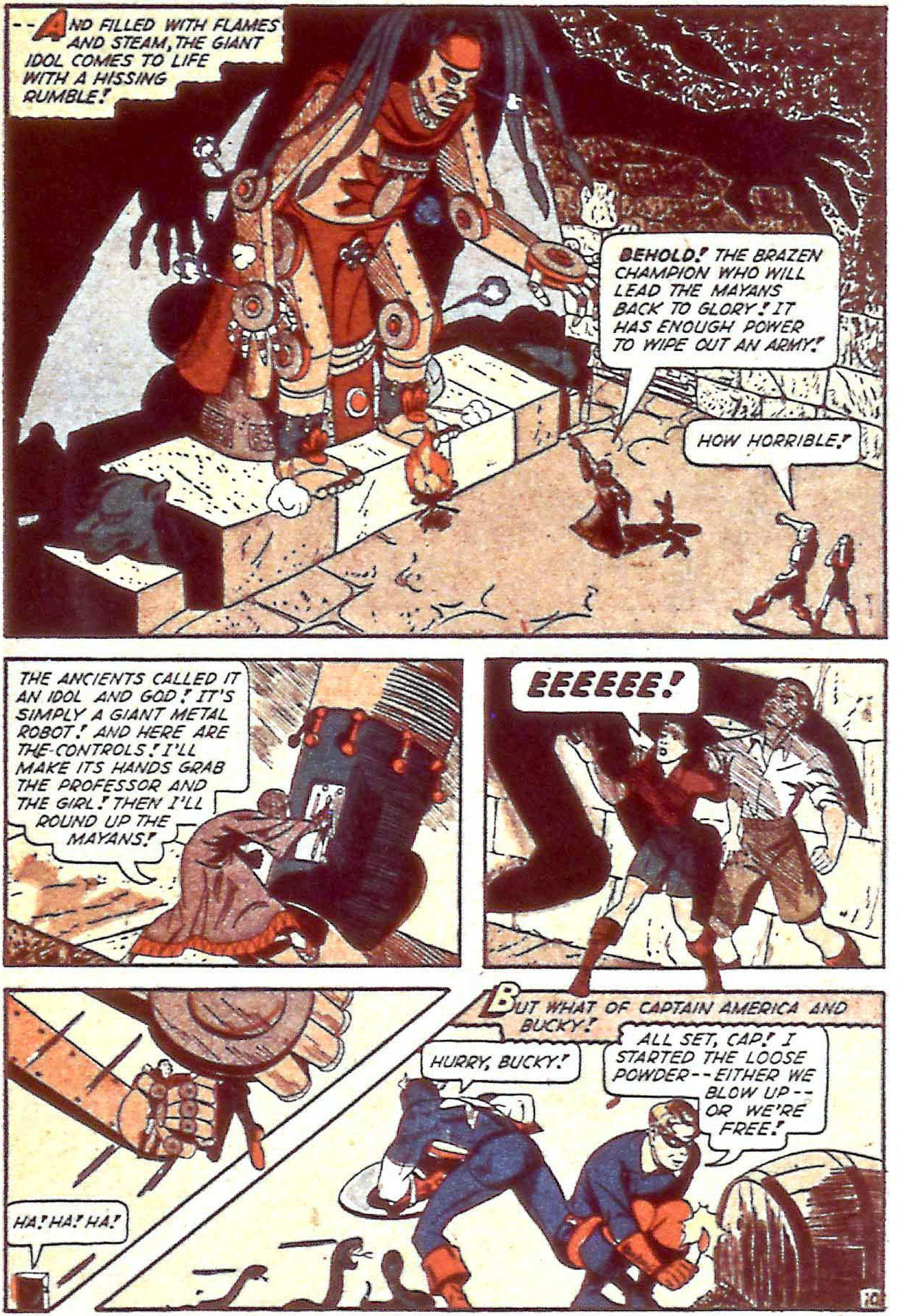

WHAT'S UP, MISS?
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY! I'M SUSAN DIX! MY FATHER, PROFESSOR DIX IS BEING ATTACKED BY THE MAN IN THE STEEL MASK IN THERE!
YOU STAY OUT HERE, SUSAN! WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THE MATTER!
CAP! THIS MUST BE THE SECRET ENTRANCE!
IN THE MEANTIME---
LET THE GIRL GO! IT'S YOU I WANT! I HEARD YOU SAY YOU COULD READ THE INSCRIPTION! IT'S THE SECRET OF BRINGING THE IDOL TO LIFE!
YOU--A HIGH PRIEST OF THE TEMPLE--CAN'T READ IT?
SILENCE, DOG! READ IT---OR MY STEEL FINGERS WILL CHOKE---
NO, I--GGGG!
WHA--MORE INTRUDERS?
GASP! CAPTAIN AMERICA! THANK HEAVEN!
SO YOU'RE THE MAN IN THE STEEL MASK, EH?
HAVE ONE WHERE IT COUNTS!
WHANK
IDIOT!
HAH, FOOL! WHAT GOOD IS FLESH AND BONE AGAINST STEEL?

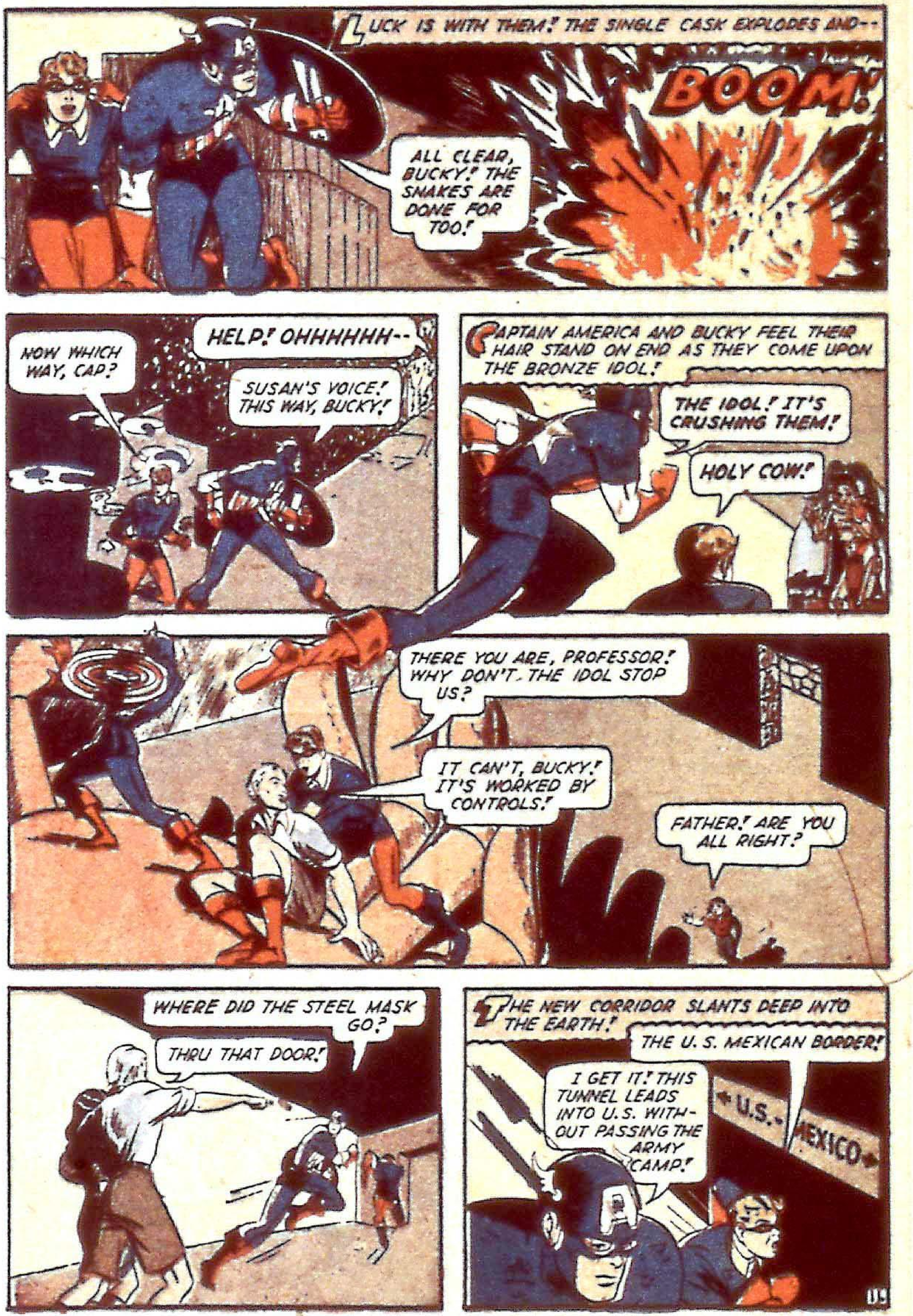

BUCKY STAGGERS THE MAN IN THE STEEL MASK WITH A BLOW FROM CAPTAIN AMERICA'S SHIELD!
CLANG!
TAKE THIS!
UGH!
BRAT! ONE BLOW OF MY STEEL FIST WILL TEACH YOU NOT TO TRY TRICKS!
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY ARE STUNNED BY THE BLOW, AND THE EVIL HIGH PRIEST MAKES HIS EXIT CARRYING THE DAZED PROFESSOR!
I CAN'T WASTE TIME WITH THOSE TWO! I'LL JUST VANISH WITH THE PROFESSOR THRU THIS SECRET DOOR!
ONLY THE SILENCE OF THE ANCIENT TOMB GREETS THE TWO CHAMPIONS AS THEY COME TO!
I'LL BE-- HE GOT AWAY!
HOLY SMOKE! LOOK, CAP! THE IDOL THE PROFESSOR CAME TO FIND!
WE'VE GOT TO RESCUE THE PROFESSOR, BUCKY! KEEP SEARCHING FOR ANOTHER EXIT!
OKAY, CAP!

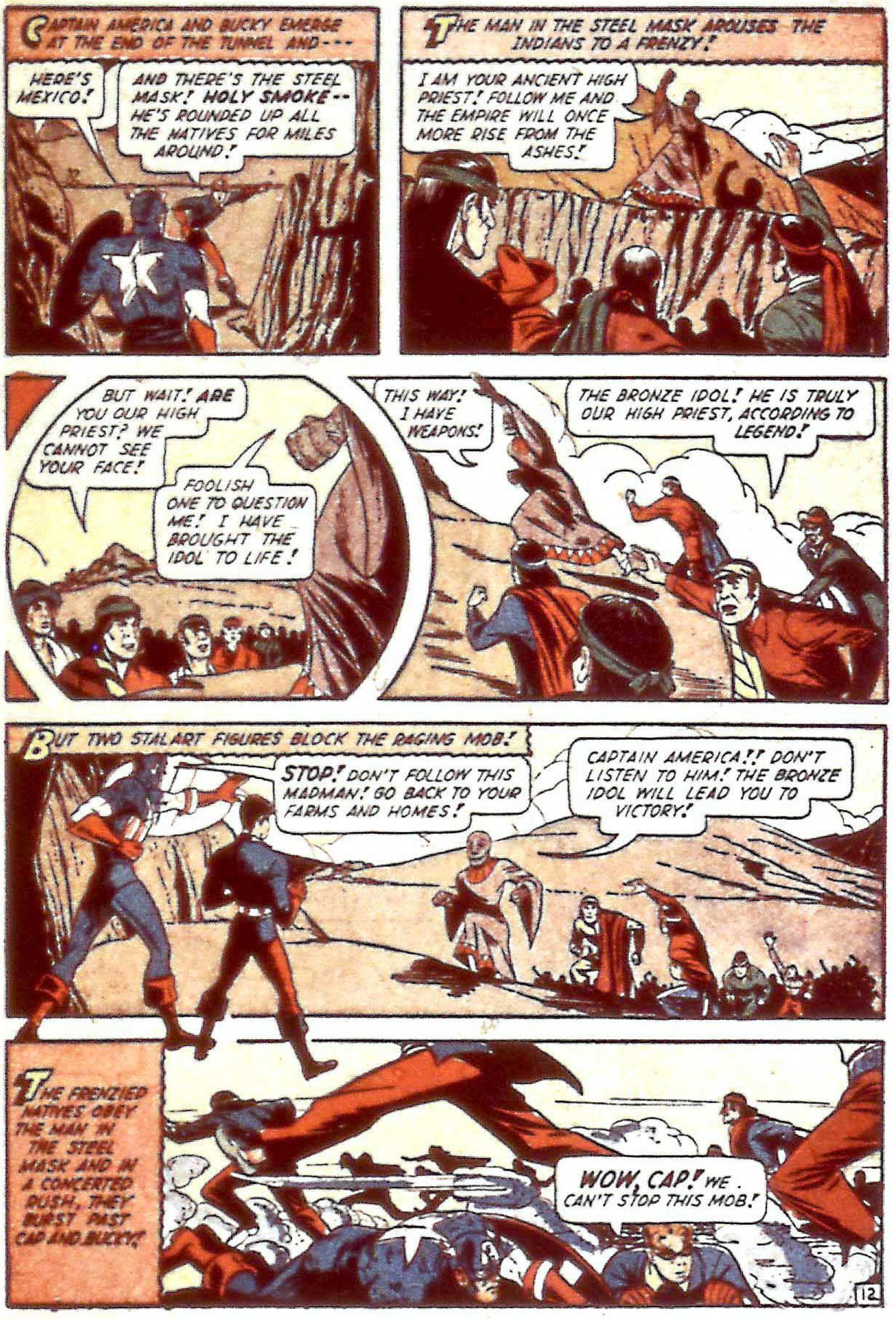

MEANWHILE
NO, YOU FIEND! I WON'T TRANSLATE! THE INDIANS WILL FOLLOW THE IDOL IF IT CAME TO LIFE! ALL AMERICA IS IN DANGER!
BAH! I HAVE ANOTHER WAY TO MAKE YOU TALK!
YOUR DAUGHTER -- SHE MUST BE OUTSIDE --- WAITING -- HA, HA!
NO, LET MY GIRL OUT OF THIS! DON'T--
THE "STEEL MASK" EMERGES FROM ANOTHER EXIT---
THERE'S THE GIRL ALONE! I'LL SNEAK DOWN TO HER!
I WISH CAPTAIN AMERICA OR BUCKY WOULD COME OUT! I'LL GO IN MYSELF --!
YES, YOU'RE GOING IN---WITH ME!
BUT AT THAT MOMENT, CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY COME OUT OF THE TEMPLE!
STUMPED! WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE PROFESSOR SOME OTHER WAY!
LOOK, CAP! NOW SUSAN IS GONE TOO!
7

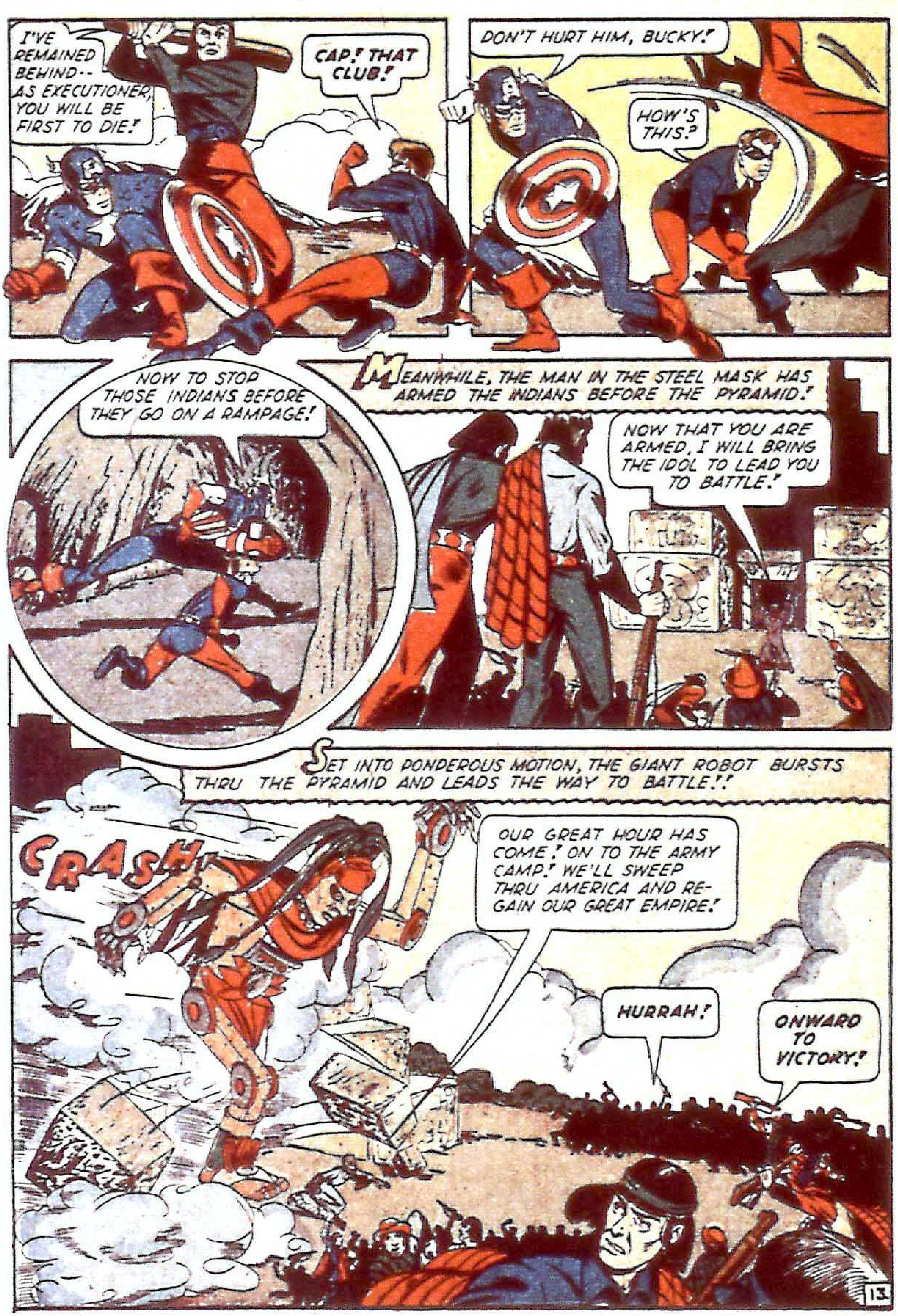

THERE SHE IS--- THE STEEL MASK HAS HER! LET'S GO, BUCKY!
IT'S THOSE TWO AFTER ME AGAIN! I'LL FIX THEM THIS TIME!
YOU MONSTER!
WATCHOUT BUCKY! HE'S THROWING ROCKS!
YEOW!
WHEW! JUST IN TIME!
SAVED BY THEIR QUICK ACTION, THE TWO HEROES CLIMB TO THE TOP---
HEY, I DON'T LIKE THIS THIS! WHY DID OUR STEEL FRIEND LEAVE IT OPEN FOR US?
THIS WAY, BUCKY!
OUR HEROES PURSUE WITHIN THE PYRAMID, WHEN SUDDENLY---
HEY, THAT DOOR CLOSED!
PLOP!
IT'S A TRAP! QUICK, BUCKY! BACK THE WAY WE CAME!
GOSH, CAP! THAT DOOR CLOSED TOO!
SLAM!
BUT AS THEY REACH THE OTHER DOOR--- IT SLAMS SHUT IN THEIR FACES!

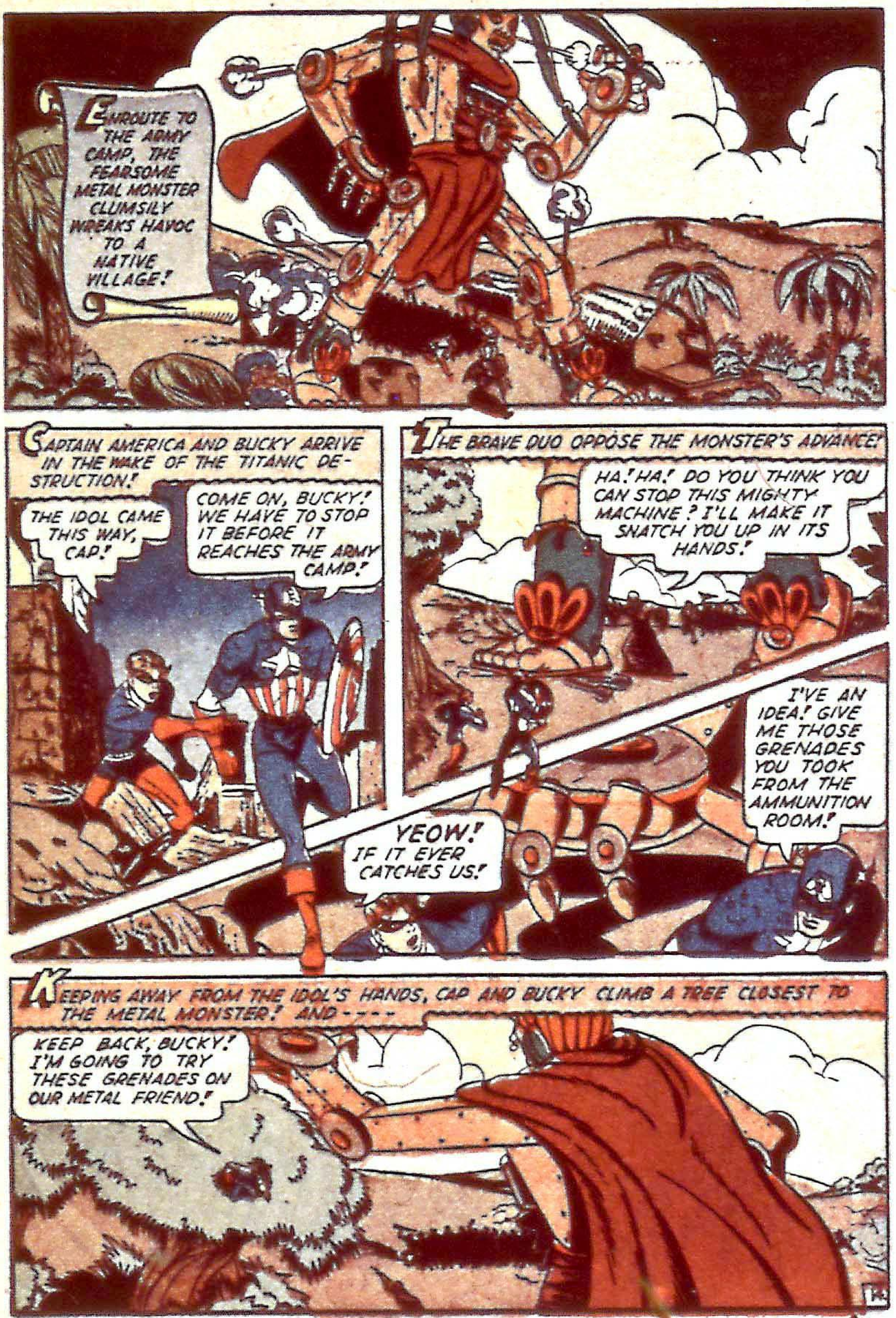

TRAPPED, LIKE BABIES!
GOSH, CAP! LOOK WHAT'S IN THIS ROOM! GUNS AND AMMUNITION!
OF GERMAN MAKE! COULD THE NAZIS BE BEHIND THIS? WHO IS THE STEEL MASK?
I WONDER IF HE IS A HIGH PRIEST?
SUDDENLY A DEEP HOLE IN THE WALL OPENS AND THE MASK LEERS IN AT THEM!
YOU'LL NEVER THE ANSWER!
WILL OUR HEROES ESCAPE?
ONLY MY SHIELD BETWEEN US AND THOSE DEADLY FANGS! THIS LOOKS BAD, BUCKY!
MEANWHILE---
WILL YOU TALK, PROFESSOR--OR SHALL I CHOKE YOUR DAUGHTER!
STOP! I'LL TALK!
IT SAYS--"PULL RING AT THE BASE OF THE IDOL! VOLCANIC FIRES FROM BELOW WILL FEED ITS SINEWS OF STEEL!"
AT LAST I HAVE THE SECRET!
I SEE! THE EARLY MAYANS WERE ARTISANS! STEAM AND FIRE ARE GUSHING FROM AN UNDERGROUND PIT FILLING THE BRONZE IDOL WITH POWER!

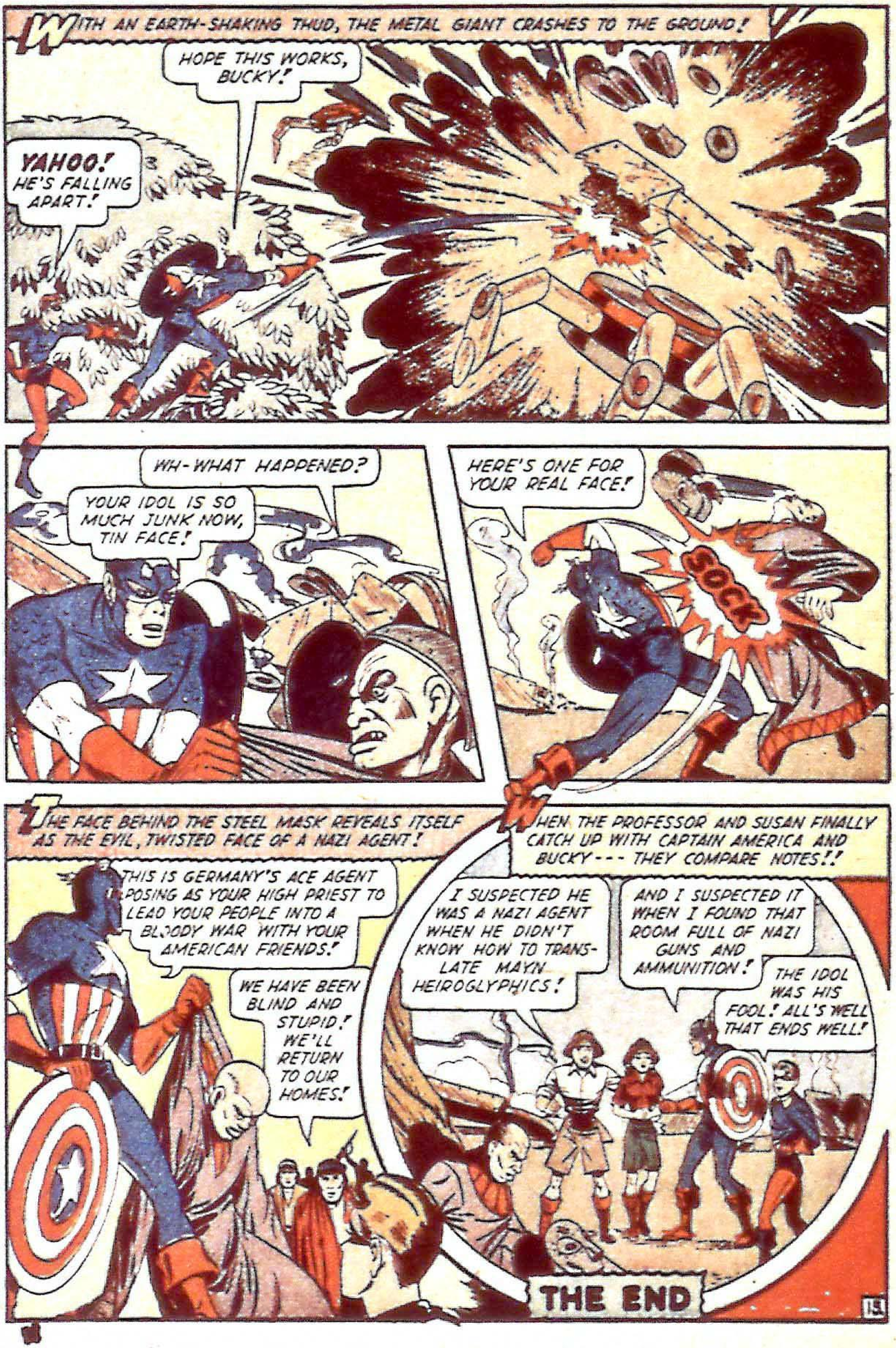

--AND FILLED WITH FLAMES AND STEAM, THE GIANT IDOL COMES TO LIFE WITH A HISSING RUMBLE!
BEHOLD! THE BRAZEN CHAMPION WHO WILL LEAD THE MAYANS BACK TO GLORY! IT HAS ENOUGH POWER TO WIPE OUT AN ARMY!
HOW HORRIBLE!
THE ANCIENTS CALLED IT AN IDOL AND GOD! IT'S SIMPLY A GIANT METAL ROBOT! AND HERE ARE THE-CONTROLS! I'LL MAKE ITS HANDS GRAB THE PROFESSOR AND THE GIRL! THEN I'LL ROUND UP THE MAYANS!
EEEEEE!
HA! HA! HA!
BUT WHAT OF CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY!
HURRY, BUCKY!
ALL SET, CAP! I STARTED THE LOOSE POWDER--EITHER WE BLOW UP--OR WE'RE FREE!
10


LUCK IS WITH THEM! THE SINGLE CASK EXPLODES AND--
BOOM!
ALL CLEAR, BUCKY! THE SNAKES ARE DONE FOR TOO!
NOW WHICH WAY, CAP?
HELP! OHHHHHH--
SUSAN'S VOICE! THIS WAY, BUCKY!
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY FEEL THEIR HAIR STAND ON END AS THEY COME UPON THE BRONZE IDOL!
THE IDOL! IT'S CRUSHING THEM!
HOLY COW!
THERE YOU ARE, PROFESSOR! WHY DON'T THE IDOL STOP US?
IT CAN'T, BUCKY! IT'S WORKED BY CONTROLS!
FATHER! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
WHERE DID THE STEEL MASK GO?
THRU THAT DOOR!
THE NEW CORRIDOR SLANTS DEEP INTO THE EARTH!
THE U. S. MEXICAN BORDER!
I GET IT! THIS TUNNEL LEADS INTO U.S. WITHOUT PASSING THE ARMY CAMP!
← U.S. – MEXICO →
15


CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY EMERGE AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL AND---
HERE'S MEXICO!
AND THERE'S THE STEEL MASK! HOLY SMOKE-- HE'S ROUNDED UP ALL THE NATIVES FOR MILES AROUND!
THE MAN IN THE STEEL MASK AROUSES THE INDIANS TO A FRENZY!
I AM YOUR ANCIENT HIGH PRIEST! FOLLOW ME AND THE EMPIRE WILL ONCE MORE RISE FROM THE ASHES!
BUT WAIT! ARE YOU OUR HIGH PRIEST? WE CANNOT SEE YOUR FACE!
FOOLISH ONE TO QUESTION ME! I HAVE BROUGHT THE IDOL TO LIFE!
THIS WAY! I HAVE WEAPONS!
THE BRONZE IDOL! HE IS TRULY OUR HIGH PRIEST, ACCORDING TO LEGEND!
BUT TWO STALART FIGURES BLOCK THE RAGING MOB!
STOP! DON'T FOLLOW THIS MADMAN! GO BACK TO YOUR FARMS AND HOMES!
CAPTAIN AMERICA!! DON'T LISTEN TO HIM! THE BRONZE IDOL WILL LEAD YOU TO VICTORY!
THE FRENZIED NATIVES OBEY THE MAN IN THE STEEL MASK AND IN A CONCERTED RUSH, THEY BURST PAST CAP AND BUCKY!
WOW, CAP! WE CAN'T STOP THIS MOB!


I'VE REMAINED BEHIND-- AS EXECUTIONER, YOU WILL BE FIRST TO DIE!
CAP! THAT CLUB!
DON'T HURT HIM, BUCKY!
HOW'S THIS?
MEANWHILE, THE MAN IN THE STEEL MASK HAS ARMED THE INDIANS BEFORE THE PYRAMID!
NOW TO STOP THOSE INDIANS BEFORE THEY GO ON A RAMPAGE!
NOW THAT YOU ARE ARMED, I WILL BRING THE IDOL TO LEAD YOU TO BATTLE!
SET INTO PONDEROUS MOTION, THE GIANT ROBOT BURSTS THRU THE PYRAMID AND LEADS THE WAY TO BATTLE!!
CRASH!
OUR GREAT HOUR HAS COME! ON TO THE ARMY CAMP! WE'LL SWEEP THRU AMERICA AND REGAIN OUR GREAT EMPIRE!
HURRAH!
ONWARD TO VICTORY!


ENROUTE TO THE ARMY CAMP, THE FEARSOME METAL MONSTER CLUMSILY WREAKS HAVOC TO A NATIVE VILLAGE!
CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY ARRIVE IN THE WAKE OF THE TITANIC DESTRUCTION!
THE IDOL CAME THIS WAY, CAP!
COME ON, BUCKY! WE HAVE TO STOP IT BEFORE IT REACHES THE ARMY CAMP!
THE BRAVE DUO OPPOSE THE MONSTER'S ADVANCE!
HA! HA! DO YOU THINK YOU CAN STOP THIS MIGHTY MACHINE? I'LL MAKE IT SNATCH YOU UP IN ITS HANDS!
YEOW! IF IT EVER CATCHES US!
I'VE AN IDEA! GIVE ME THOSE GRENADES YOU TOOK FROM THE AMMUNITION ROOM!
KEEPING AWAY FROM THE IDOL'S HANDS, CAP AND BUCKY CLIMB A TREE CLOSEST TO THE METAL MONSTER! AND - - - -
KEEP BACK, BUCKY! I'M GOING TO TRY THESE GRENADES ON OUR METAL FRIEND!


WITH AN EARTH-SHAKING THUD, THE METAL GIANT CRASHES TO THE GROUND!
HOPE THIS WORKS, BUCKY!
YAHOO! HE'S FALLING APART!
WH-WHAT HAPPENED?
YOUR IDOL IS SO MUCH JUNK NOW, TIN FACE!
HERE'S ONE FOR YOUR REAL FACE!
SOCK
THE FACE BEHIND THE STEEL MASK REVEALS ITSELF AS THE EVIL, TWISTED FACE OF A NAZI AGENT!
THIS IS GERMANY'S ACE AGENT POSING AS YOUR HIGH PRIEST TO LEAD YOUR PEOPLE INTO A BLOODY WAR WITH YOUR AMERICAN FRIENDS!
WE HAVE BEEN BLIND AND STUPID! WE'LL RETURN TO OUR HOMES!
WHEN THE PROFESSOR AND SUSAN FINALLY CATCH UP WITH CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY --- THEY COMPARE NOTES!!
I SUSPECTED HE WAS A NAZI AGENT WHEN HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO TRANSLATE MAYN HEIROGLYPHICS!
AND I SUSPECTED IT WHEN I FOUND THAT ROOM FULL OF NAZI GUNS AND AMMUNITION!
THE IDOL WAS HIS FOOL! ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL!
THE END

"GOOD LUCK STORY"

THE LEAST there should have been was a human interest story, in the big, haphazard town growing up in the North woods. Eddie Dayton realized time might have been rolled back fifty years, for these were frontier days, while the big highway cut steadily through the wilderness.

Yes, there was a human interest story, all right, but Eddie couldn't write it. Colonel Brandon had made that plain. "We aren't ready for publicity. There is nothing you could say that wouldn't be giving away vital statistics. Ordinarily," Colonel Brandon said, "we might be able to give you something to write up. But there's too much else going on here and further north, that is vitally important, of which our enemy would pay dearly to obtain information."

That was a thing of the past. Now, slumped in the chair in a corner of the hotel, Eddie watched the people about him. Now and then his eyes drifted aside, to where two men in particular lounged by themselves. Every time the door opened their eyes came up. Eddie had seen them before, knew the shack they lived in. Eddie remembered the Colonel's words, "Our enemy would pay dearly to know what is going on here."

THE DOOR opened, admitting a figure camouflaged by snow. The two men across from him tensed into watchfulness as the stranger stamped to the desk and signed the ledger. He carried a grip and now turned and crossed to the stairs leading to the floor above.

Again Eddie's glance shifted. He settled back as one of the two men stood up and advanced casually to the desk. Eddie saw him speak to the clerk, then return. Evidently the one who had investigated was excited.

"That's Ryder. Didn't think he was ever coming. We can finish up now he's here!"

The two men crossed to the door, stepped through into the swirling snow beyond.

Eddie stood up and walked over to the desk. He nodded to the man behind it, asked, "What room is Ryder in?"

"He's in Fourteen."

Eddie went outside. The wind and snow tussled with him. His glasses blotted over and the straggling lights of the street dimmed out as the wind whooped and shouted around the bunched buildings. Resolutely Eddie pushed out into the street. He had to get to a phone away from the hotel, where there was no chance of being overheard. He had to get through to the Army base, warn the Colonel that Ryder and company were here to make trouble.

COLONEL BRANDON wasn't available, so Eddie explained to the Sergeant on duty what had happened. Then Eddie wallowed back through the deepening snow toward the hotel. He was almost to the door when it opened and Ryder stepped out into th storm.

Eddie was taking no chances. This might be the story he wanted. Quickly he floundered after the retreating figure.

Evidently Ryder wasn't worried about being followed, and apparently he knew where he was going. He looked neither to right nor left. He was almost at the edge of town when Eddie struggled forward, reached out and grasped the man's arm.

"Hold up," Eddie commanded. "Going somewhere, mister?"

Ryder looked out from under the brim of his hat. His thin face looked half frozen, his black eyes like ice. "If you've got business with me, my man—"

"Okay, okay," Eddie soothed, relinquishing his grip. "But you'd better come back to the hotel with me. You might get lost."

"Now see here!" Ryder sputtered. "I'm here on important business—technical work for the Government—"

"I'm Winston Churchill." Eddie brushed snow from his chin. "Here for a conference. We're both going to sit in on it. Come along—"

The man's hand streaked for his pocket and Eddie's fist struck out, caught Ryder squarely on the chin. His head snapped back, his hat went sailing, his knees buckled, he hit the snow and disappeared.

Carefully Eddie extricated his victim, then helped him forward through the storm. "We're still sitting in on that conference," Eddie growled. "We'll stop at my place. I don't want you to catch your death of cold. It'll be much nicer dying where it'll be . . . hot!"

LEAVING Ryder carefully bound and gagged in his own shack, Eddie once more plunged into the storm. He eyed the intermittent light from one of the scattered buildings before him. The other two men, Ryder's agents, probably, were in there, waiting for Ryder to show up. It would give them quite a shock to find he wasn't coming.

Reaching the door, Eddie applied his knuckles. Maybe he was sticking his neck out—

The door opened and a bearded face peered suspiciously at him. Eddie pushed past. He saw at a swift glance that these were his men. One stood across the room, one hand in the pocket of his jacket. The one at the door watched suspiciously, with his body poised tensely.

"Well?" the first man demanded. "What'll you have?"

Eddie steadied himself. ""I've got a message. From Ryder."

"Ryder!" the man across the room hissed.

Eddie's hand fished into his coat pocket, emerged a second later holding Ryder's gun. "Okay," Eddie snarled. "Get 'em up. Both of you—"

The man across the room clawed at a holstered gun beneath his shoulder. Eddie's weapon went off with a sharp crack. The man crumpled slowly, going down on a slant, striking the corner of the table and glancing off. . . .

EDDIE whirled just as the bearded man hurled himself forward. Light flashed from the silvery blade of the hunting knife in his hand. Again Eddie fired and hurled himself aside just in time to escape the savage swing of the knife. The man yelped with pain, clapped his hand to his shoulder. He stumbled back, crumpling into a rickety chair, head hanging.

"You asked for it," Eddie snarled. "You and your pals. You'll hang, the three of you—"

A heavy fist hammered at the door. A moment later it burst open, admitting a tide of soldiers carrying sub-machine guns. Colonel Brandon stamped into the room, keen blue eyes sweeping the scene before him.

Some one pushed in past the Colonel, pointed a trembling finger at Eddie. "That's him!" Ryder accused shrilly. "I was on my way to see you when he attacked me."

Colonel Brandon said, "Take it easy, all of you. I'll handle this. Now, Eddie, what's your story?"

Eddie indicated his two captives. "These two and . . Ryder. They were waiting for him—"

Colonel Brandon nodded. "Yes, I know. You see, Eddie, Mr. Ryder is an important technician from Washington. That's why he is here. As for these two hoodlums . . . they wanted to prevent Ryder from reaching here. This may be the beginning of something big. We'll have to look into it!"

Eddie shook his head clear of confusion. "I—I didn't believe Ryder when he pulled a gun. . . ."

EDDIE chuckled. "And I didn't think I was going to get a story up here." He headed for the door.

Colonel Brandon stopped him. "Sorry, Ed. You can't write this up. It's still . . . vital information!"

For a long moment Eddie stared. "But—but, my gosh, Colonel, I'll get fired. I'll be out of a job—"

"I'll give you one," the Colonel smiled. "You'll make a good soldier!"

"He sure will," Ryder agreed. "When he slugs 'em, they'll stay slugged." *THE END*

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933

of Captain America Comics published monthly at Meriden, Conn., for October 1, 1943.

State of New York } ss.
County of New York }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Martin Goodman, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the Captain America Comics and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Complete Photo Story Corporation., 350 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y.; Editor, Jean Goodman, 350 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y.; Managing Editor, Martin Goodman, 350 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y.; Business Manager, Martin Goodman, 350 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.) Complete Photo Story Corporation., 350 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y.; Abraham Goodman, 350 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y.; Arthur Goodman, 350 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y.; David Goodman, 350 Fifth Ave., N.Y., N.Y.

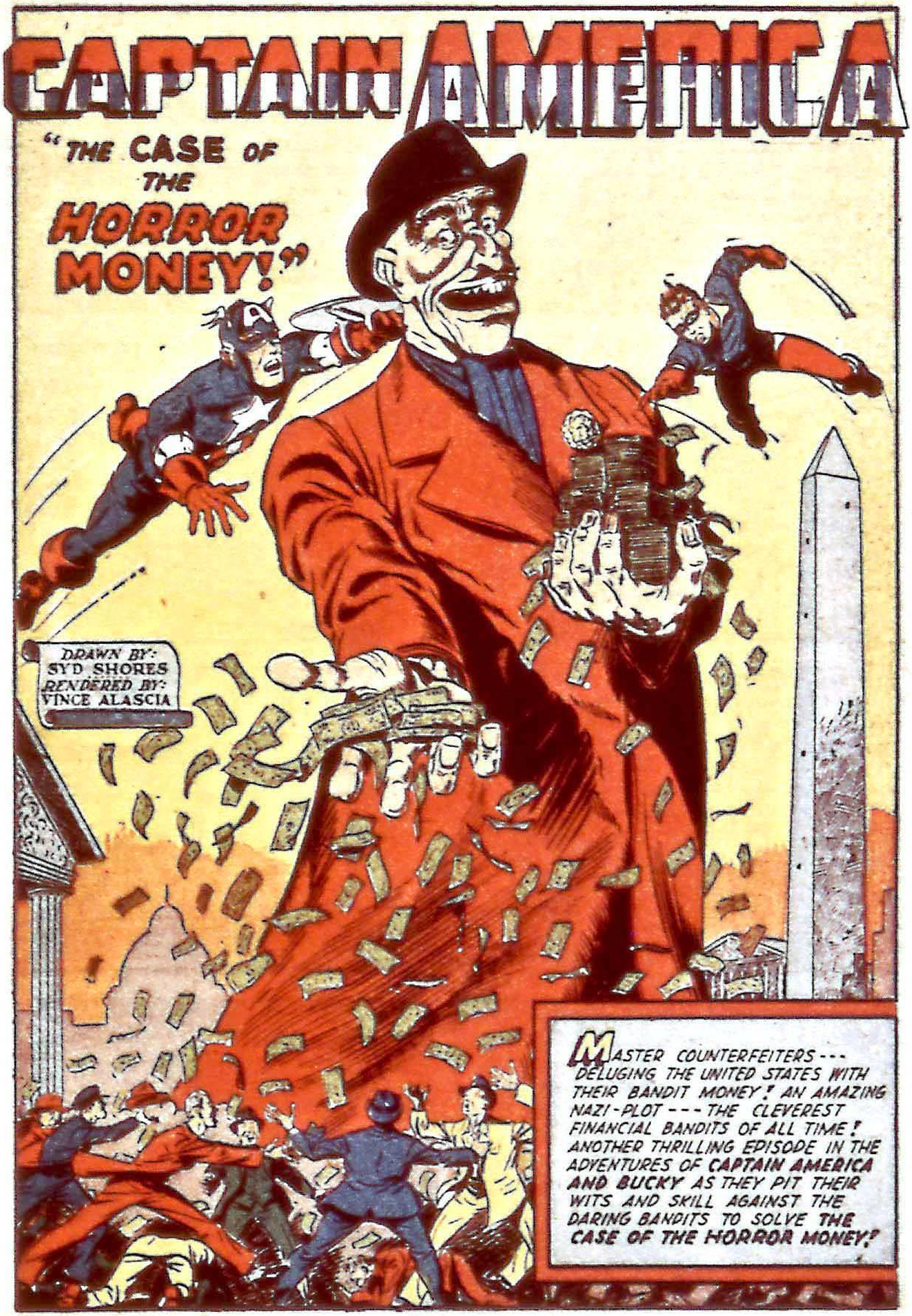
3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

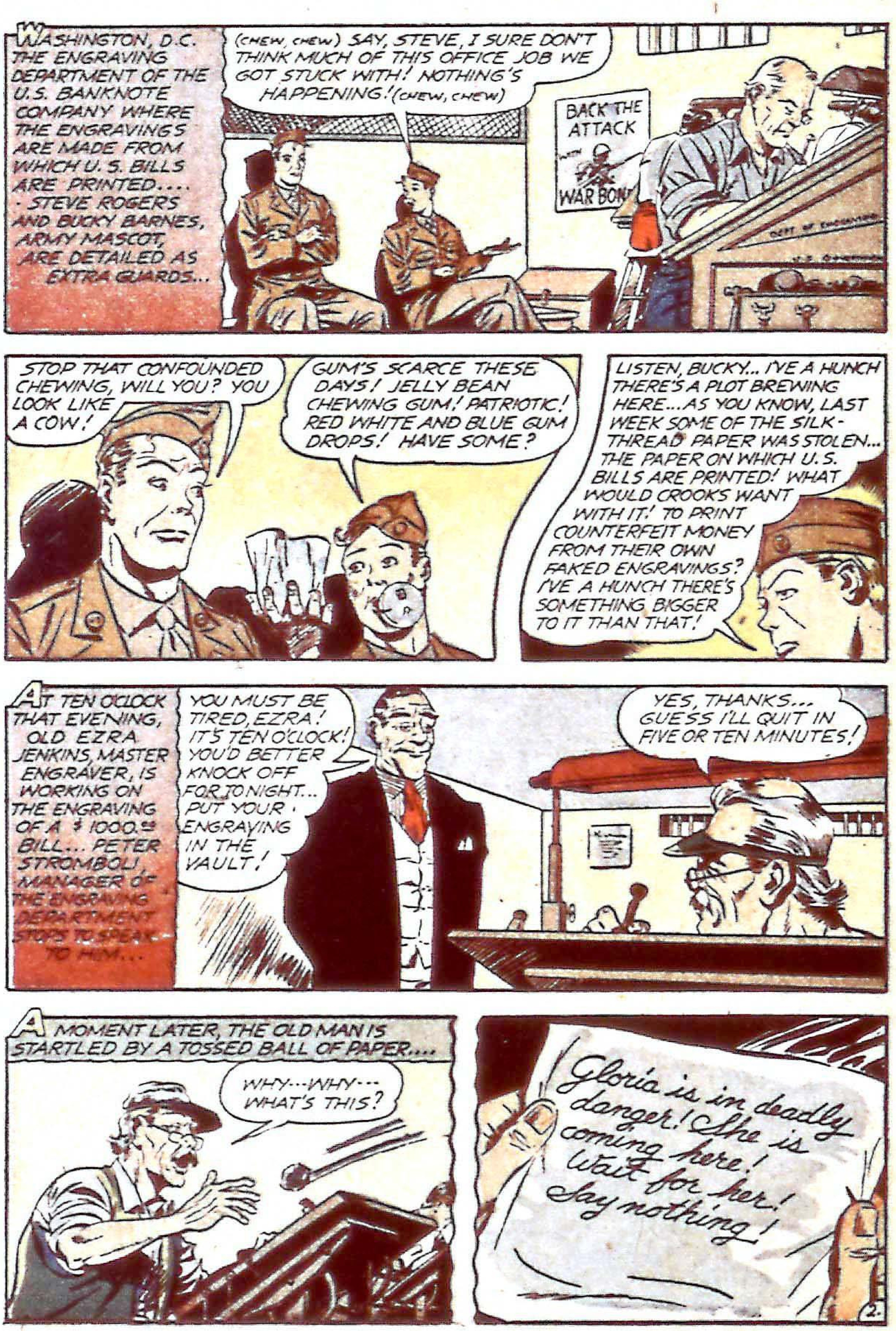
4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds or other securities than as so stated by him.

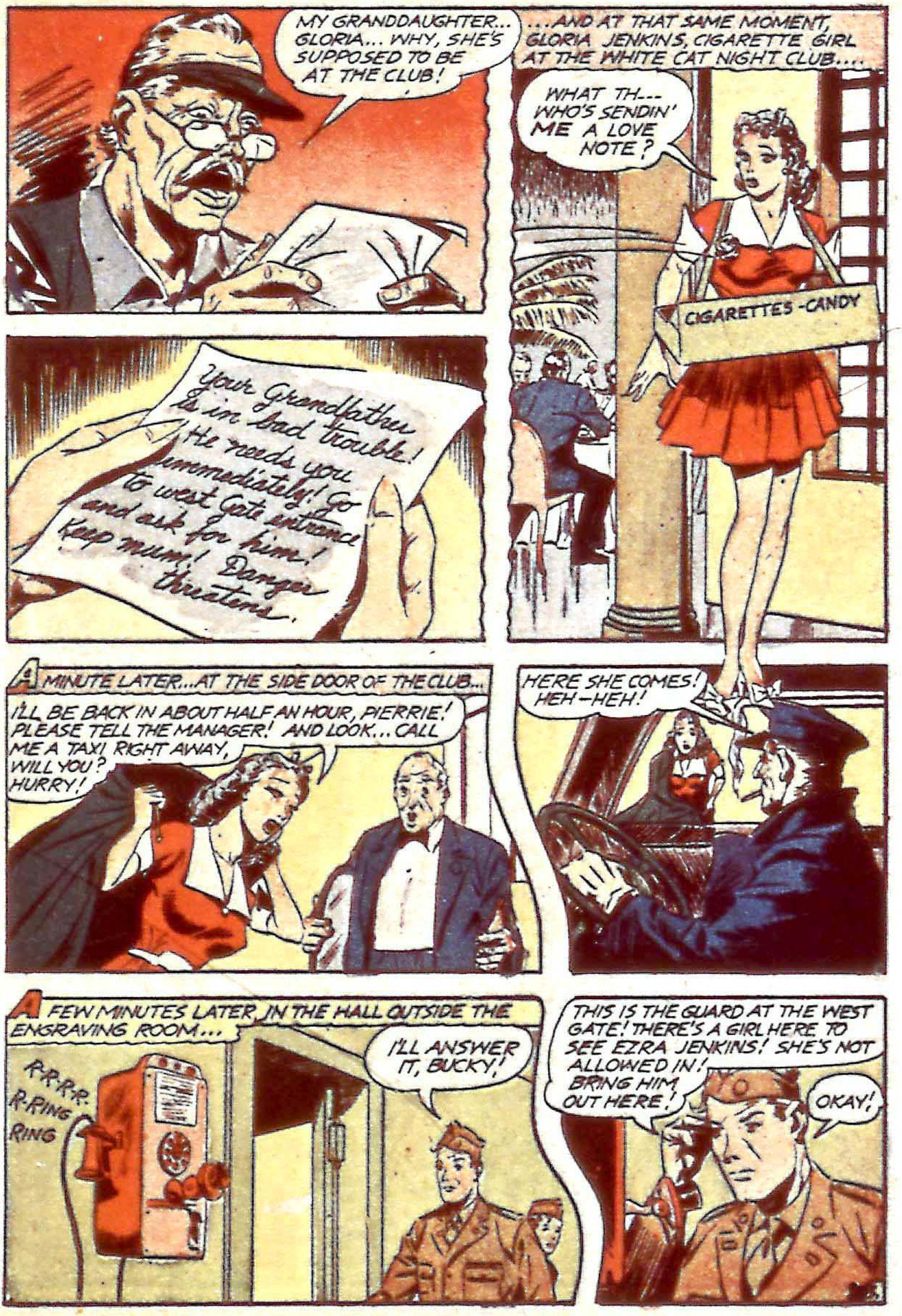
(Signed) MARTIN GOODMAN.

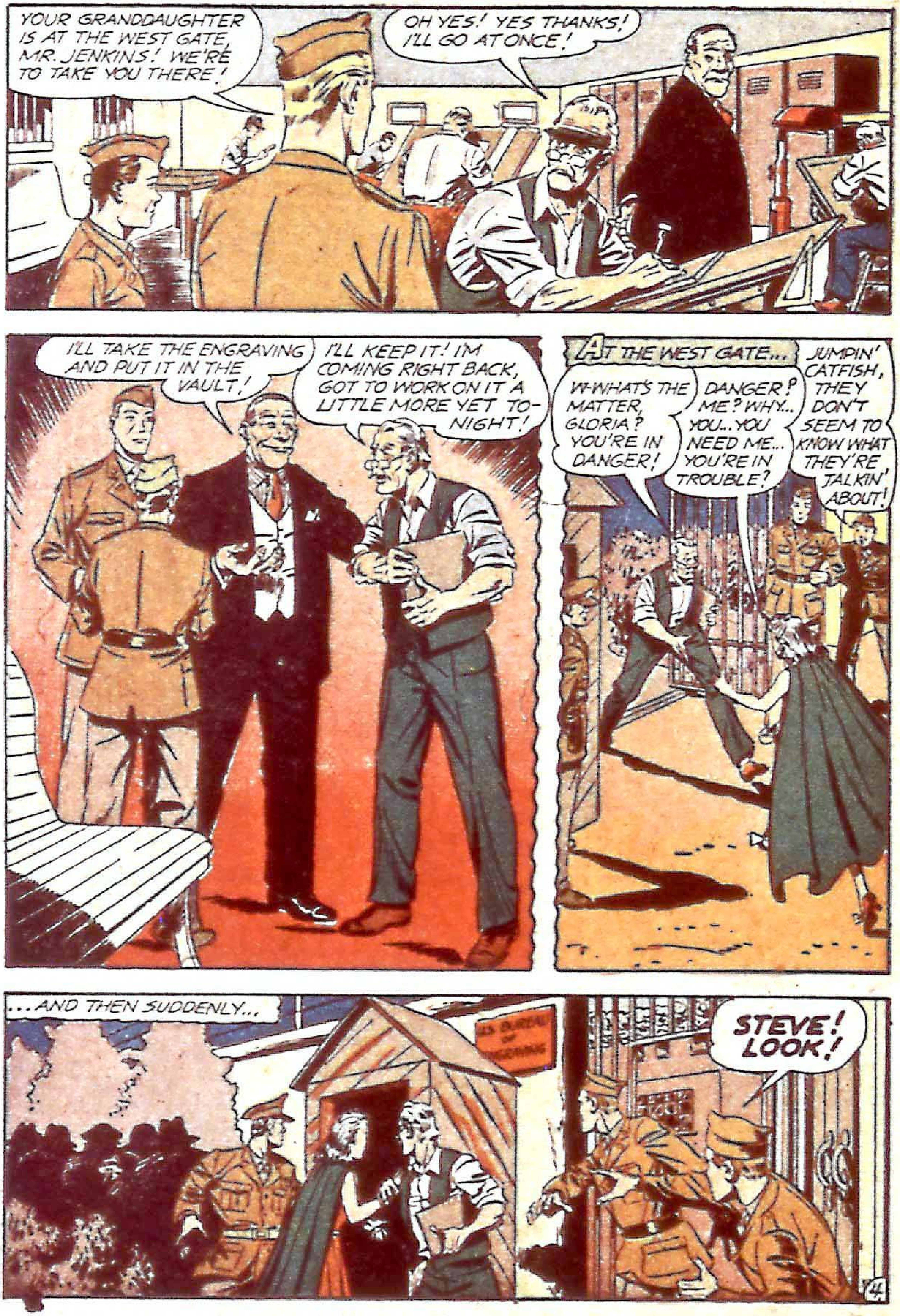
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of September, 1943.

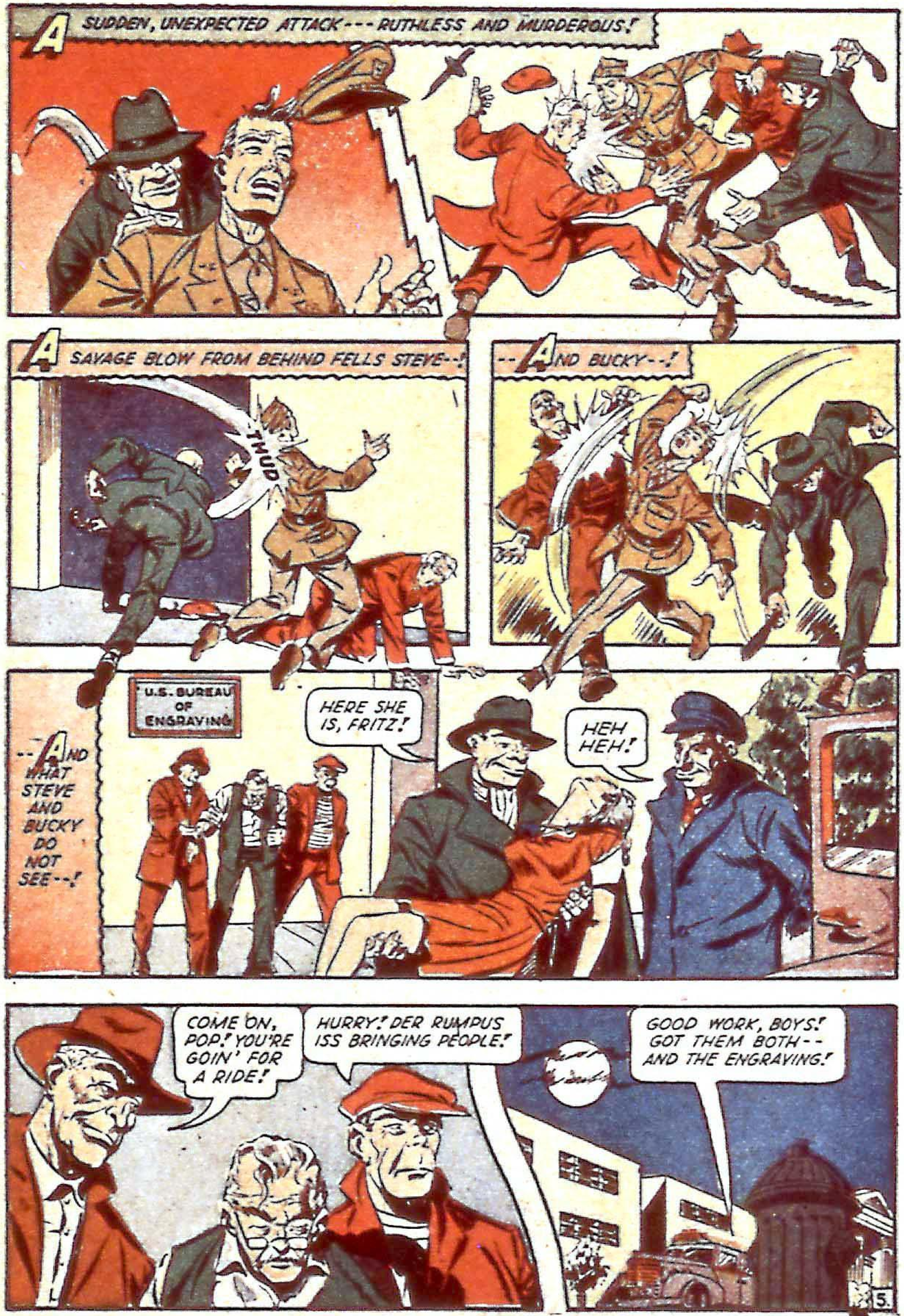
(SEAL) SYLVIA FIEGEN.
(My commission expires, March 30, 1945.)

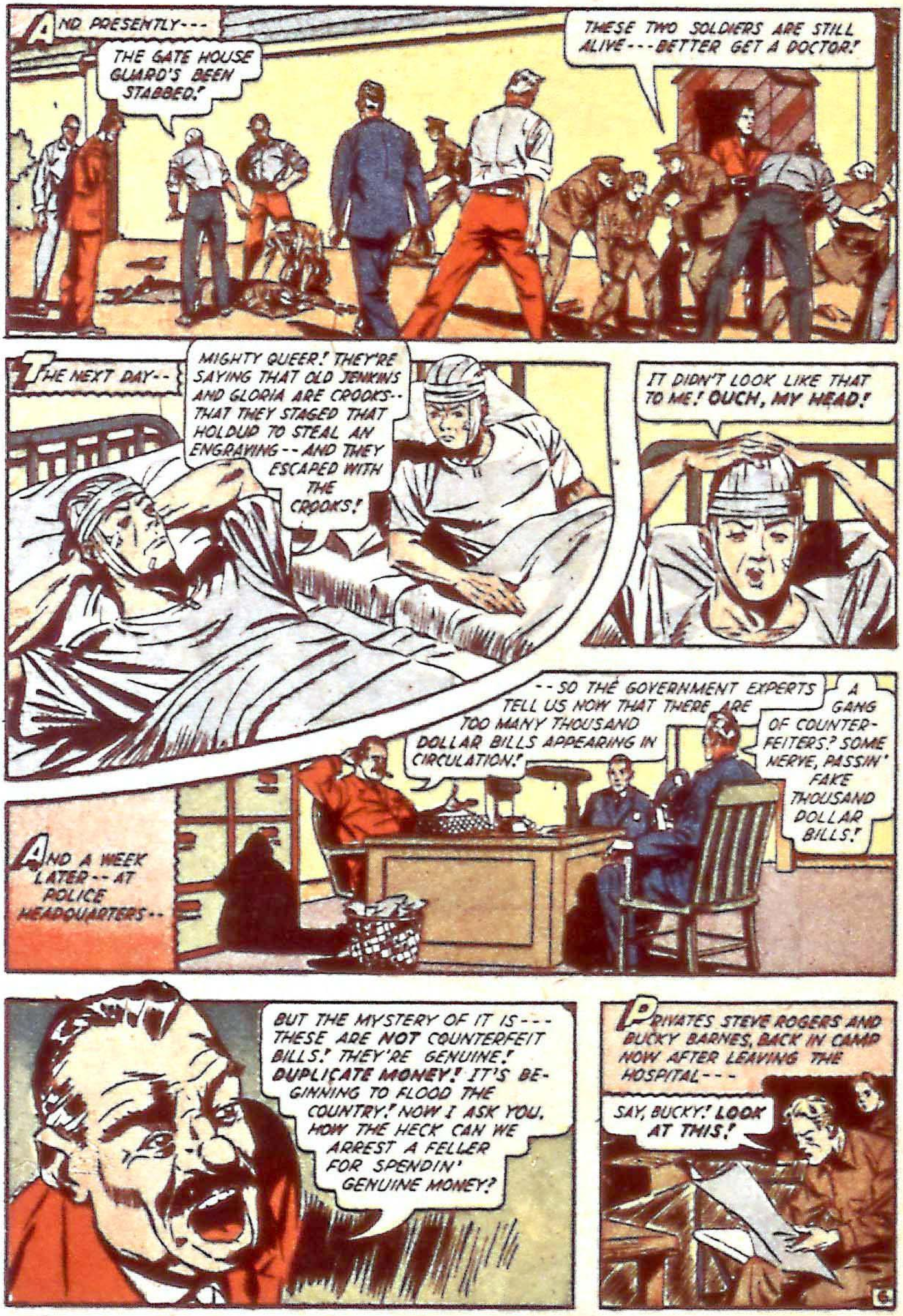

CAPTAIN AMERICA
"THE CASE OF THE HORROR MONEY!"
DRAWN BY: SYD SHORES
RENDERED BY: VINCE ALASCIA
MASTER COUNTERFEITERS --- DELUGING THE UNITED STATES WITH THEIR BANDIT MONEY! AN AMAZING NAZI-PLOT --- THE CLEVEREST FINANCIAL BANDITS OF ALL TIME! ANOTHER THRILLING EPISODE IN THE ADVENTURES OF **CAPTAIN AMERICA AND BUCKY** AS THEY PIT THEIR WITS AND SKILL AGAINST THE DARING BANDITS TO SOLVE **THE CASE OF THE HORROR MONEY!**

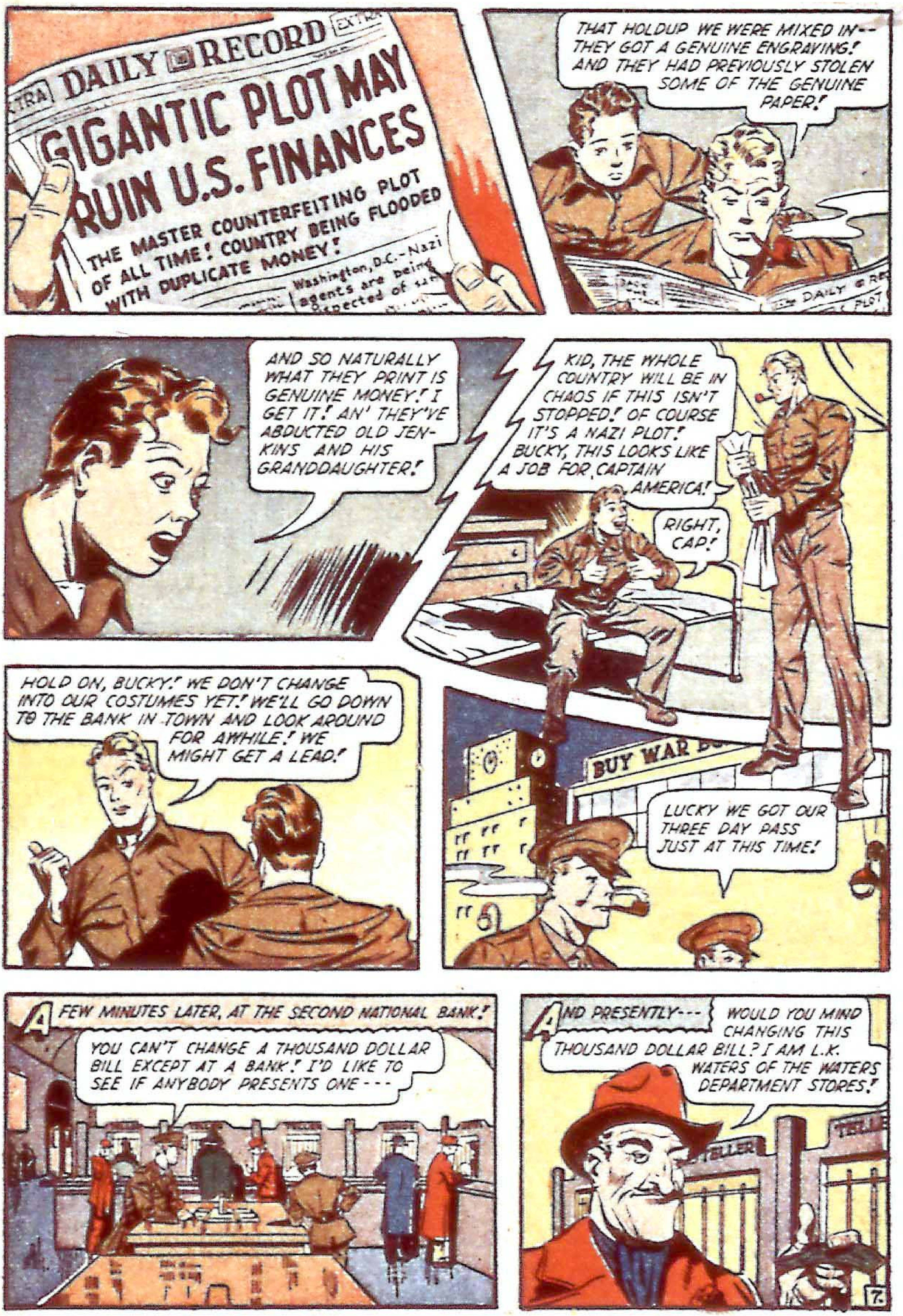

WASHINGTON, D.C. THE ENGRAVING DEPARTMENT OF THE U.S. BANKNOTE COMPANY WHERE THE ENGRAVINGS ARE MADE FROM WHICH U. S. BILLS ARE PRINTED.... STEVE ROGERS AND BUCKY BARNES, ARMY MASCOT, ARE DETAILED AS EXTRA GUARDS...
(CHEW, CHEW) SAY, STEVE, I SURE DON'T THINK MUCH OF THIS OFFICE JOB WE GOT STUCK WITH! NOTHING'S HAPPENING! (CHEW, CHEW)
BACK THE ATTACK
WITH
WAR BON
STOP THAT CONFOUNDED CHEWING, WILL YOU? YOU LOOK LIKE A COW!
GUM'S SCARCE THESE DAYS! JELLY BEAN CHEWING GUM! PATRIOTIC! RED WHITE AND BLUE GUM DROPS! HAVE SOME?
LISTEN, BUCKY... I'VE A HUNCH THERE'S A PLOT BREWING HERE...AS YOU KNOW, LAST WEEK SOME OF THE SILK-THREAD PAPER WAS STOLEN... THE PAPER ON WHICH U.S. BILLS ARE PRINTED! WHAT WOULD CROOKS WANT WITH IT! TO PRINT COUNTERFEIT MONEY FROM THEIR OWN FAKED ENGRAVINGS? I'VE A HUNCH THERE'S SOMETHING BIGGER TO IT THAN THAT!
AT TEN O'CLOCK THAT EVENING, OLD EZRA JENKINS, MASTER ENGRAVER, IS WORKING ON THE ENGRAVING OF A $1000.00 BILL... PETER STROMBOLI, MANAGER OF THE ENGRAVING DEPARTMENT STOPS TO SPEAK TO HIM...
YOU MUST BE TIRED, EZRA! IT'S TEN O'CLOCK! YOU'D BETTER KNOCK OFF FOR TONIGHT... PUT YOUR ENGRAVING IN THE VAULT!
YES, THANKS... GUESS I'LL QUIT IN FIVE OR TEN MINUTES!
A MOMENT LATER, THE OLD MAN IS STARTLED BY A TOSSED BALL OF PAPER....
WHY...WHY... WHAT'S THIS?
Gloria is in deadly danger! She is coming here! Wait for her! Say nothing!
2.

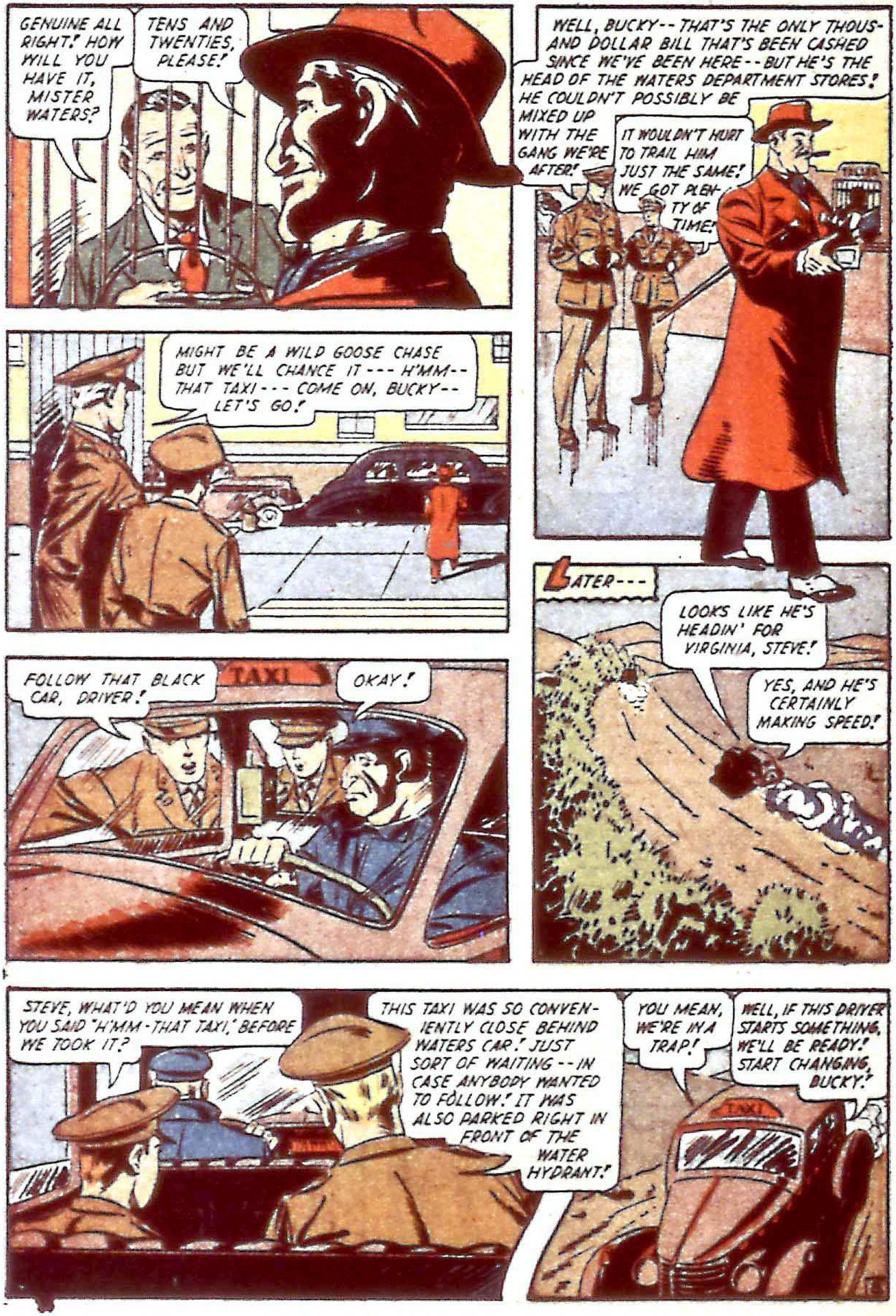

MY GRANDDAUGHTER... GLORIA... WHY, SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE AT THE CLUB!
...AND AT THAT SAME MOMENT, GLORIA JENKINS, CIGARETTE GIRL AT THE WHITE CAT NIGHT CLUB....
WHAT TH--- WHO'S SENDIN' ME A LOVE NOTE?
CIGARETTES-CANDY
Your Grandfather is in bad trouble! He needs you immediately! Go to west Gate entrance and ask for him! Keep mum! Danger threatens.
A MINUTE LATER...AT THE SIDE DOOR OF THE CLUB...
I'LL BE BACK IN ABOUT HALF AN HOUR, PIERRIE! PLEASE TELL THE MANAGER! AND LOOK... CALL ME A TAXI RIGHT AWAY, WILL YOU? HURRY!
HERE SHE COMES! HEH-HEH!
A FEW MINUTES LATER, IN THE HALL OUTSIDE THE ENGRAVING ROOM...
R-R-R-R-R-RING RING
I'LL ANSWER IT, BUCKY!
THIS IS THE GUARD AT THE WEST GATE! THERE'S A GIRL HERE TO SEE EZRA JENKINS! SHE'S NOT ALLOWED IN! BRING HIM OUT HERE!
OKAY!

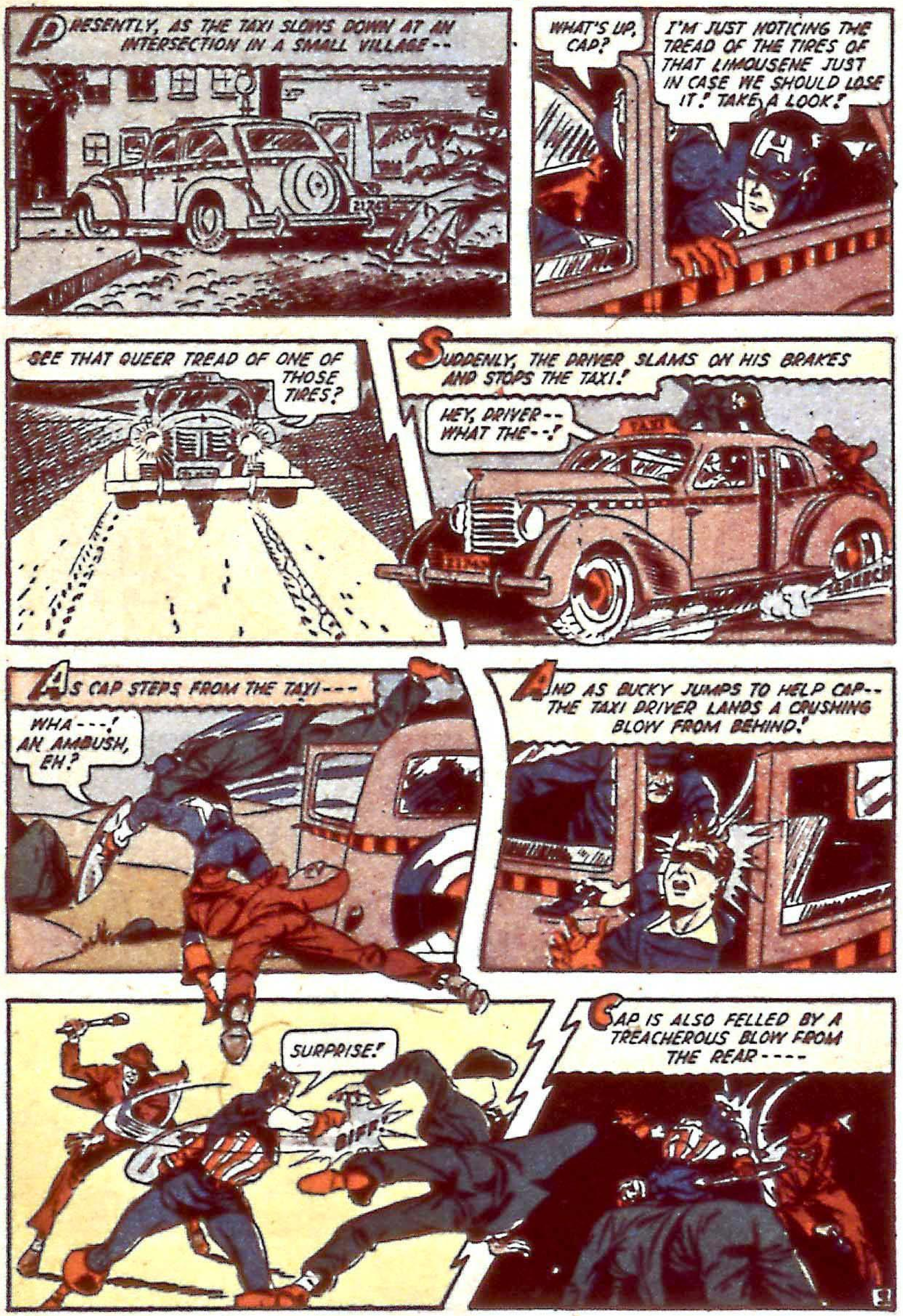

YOUR GRANDDAUGHTER IS AT THE WEST GATE, MR. JENKINS! WE'RE TO TAKE YOU THERE!
OH YES! YES THANKS! I'LL GO AT ONCE!
I'LL TAKE THE ENGRAVING AND PUT IT IN THE VAULT!
I'LL KEEP IT! I'M COMING RIGHT BACK, GOT TO WORK ON IT A LITTLE MORE YET TO-NIGHT!
AT THE WEST GATE...
W-WHAT'S THE MATTER, GLORIA? YOU'RE IN DANGER!
DANGER? ME? WHY... YOU... YOU NEED ME... YOU'RE IN TROUBLE?
JUMPIN' CATFISH, THEY DON'T SEEM TO KNOW WHAT THEY'RE TALKIN' ABOUT!
...AND THEN SUDDENLY...
U.S. BUREAU OF ENGRAVING
STEVE! LOOK!
14

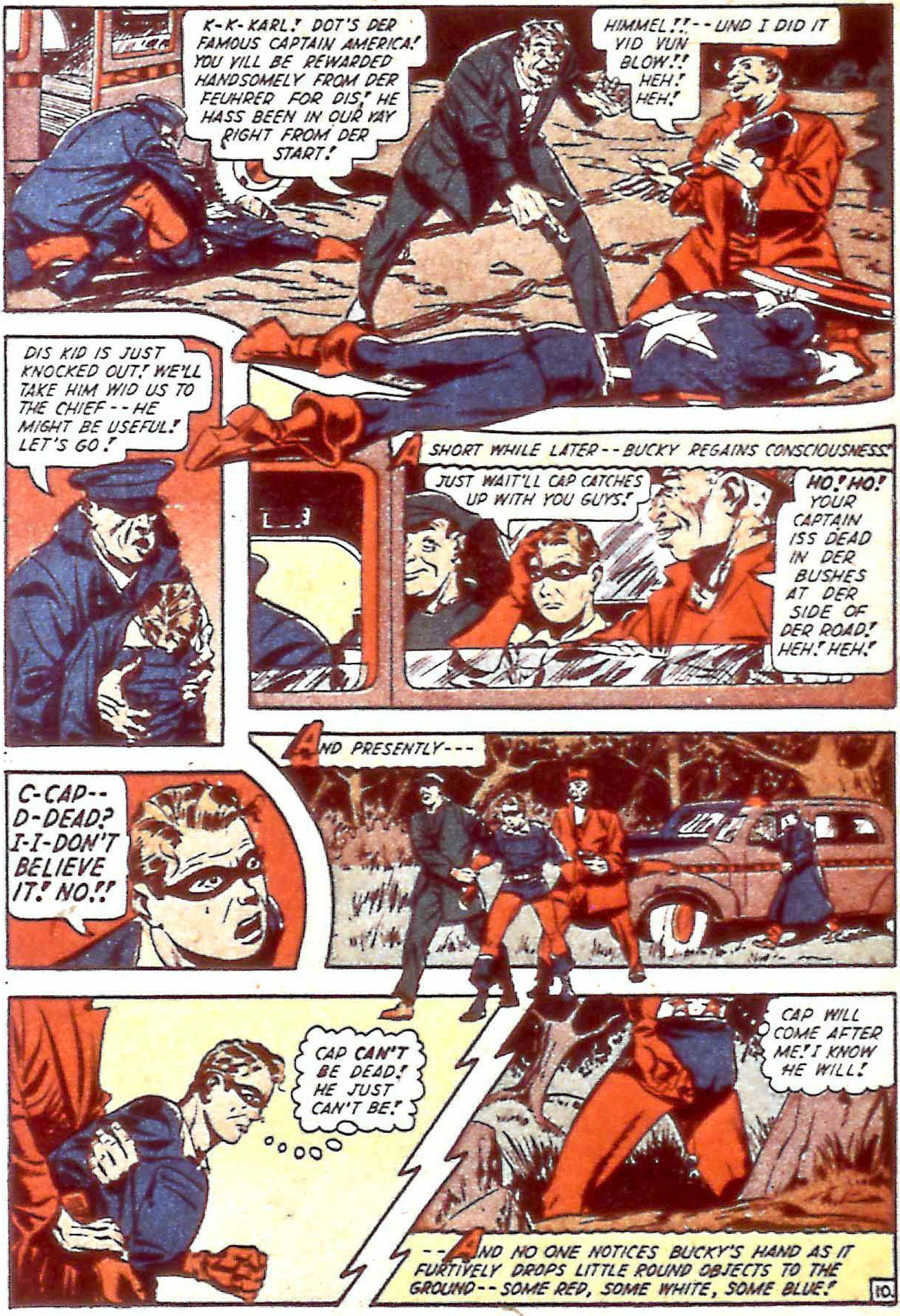

A SUDDEN, UNEXPECTED ATTACK--- RUTHLESS AND MURDEROUS!
A SAVAGE BLOW FROM BEHIND FELLS STEVE--!
THUD
--AND BUCKY--!
--AND WHAT STEVE AND BUCKY DO NOT SEE--!
U.S. BUREAU OF ENGRAVING
HERE SHE IS, FRITZ!
HEH HEH!
COME ON, POP! YOU'RE GOIN' FOR A RIDE!
HURRY! DER RUMPUS ISS BRINGING PEOPLE!
GOOD WORK, BOYS! GOT THEM BOTH-- AND THE ENGRAVING!

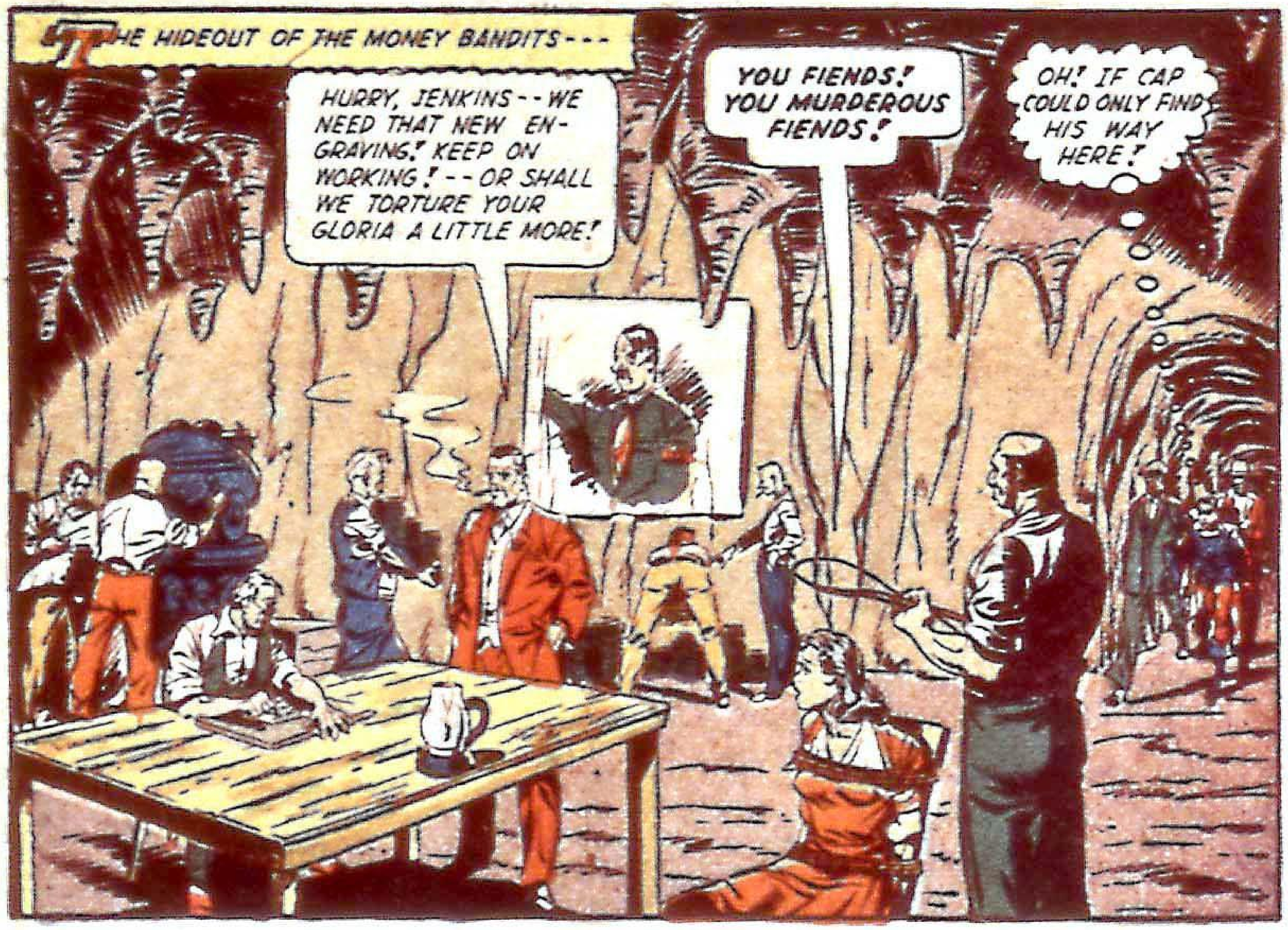

AND PRESENTLY---
THE GATE HOUSE GUARD'S BEEN STABBED!
THESE TWO SOLDIERS ARE STILL ALIVE---BETTER GET A DOCTOR!
THE NEXT DAY--
MIGHTY QUEER! THEY'RE SAYING THAT OLD JENKINS AND GLORIA ARE CROOKS--THAT THEY STAGED THAT HOLDUP TO STEAL AN ENGRAVING--AND THEY ESCAPED WITH THE CROOKS!
IT DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THAT TO ME! OUCH, MY HEAD!
AND A WEEK LATER--AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS--
--SO THE GOVERNMENT EXPERTS TELL US NOW THAT THERE ARE TOO MANY THOUSAND DOLLAR BILLS APPEARING IN CIRCULATION!
A GANG OF COUNTERFEITERS? SOME NERVE, PASSIN' FAKE THOUSAND DOLLAR BILLS!
BUT THE MYSTERY OF IT IS---THESE ARE NOT COUNTERFEIT BILLS! THEY'RE GENUINE! DUPLICATE MONEY! IT'S BEGINNING TO FLOOD THE COUNTRY! NOW I ASK YOU, HOW THE HECK CAN WE ARREST A FELLER FOR SPENDIN' GENUINE MONEY?
PRIVATES STEVE ROGERS AND BUCKY BARNES, BACK IN CAMP NOW AFTER LEAVING THE HOSPITAL---
SAY, BUCKY! LOOK AT THIS!
6

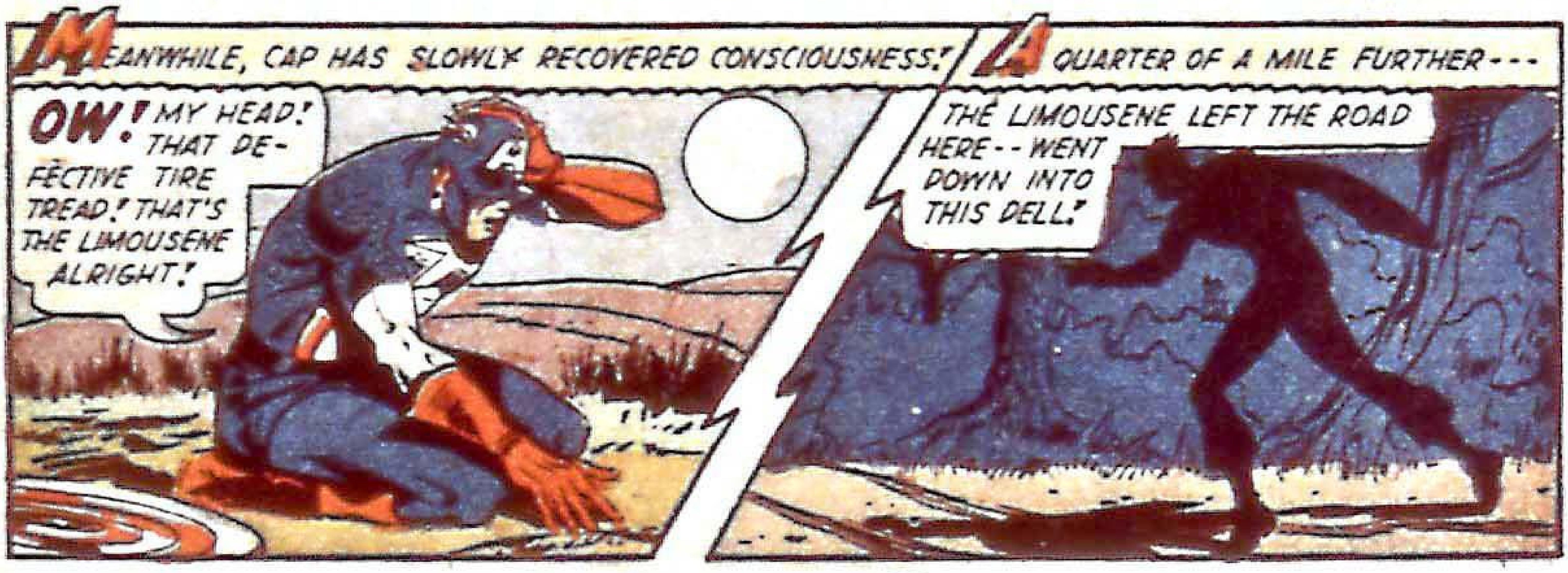

EXTRA DAILY RECORD EXTRA
GIGANTIC PLOT MAY RUIN U.S. FINANCES
THE MASTER COUNTERFEITING PLOT OF ALL TIME! COUNTRY BEING FLOODED WITH DUPLICATE MONEY!
Washington, D.C.-Nazi agents are being suspected of
THAT HOLDUP WE WERE MIXED IN-- THEY GOT A GENUINE ENGRAVING! AND THEY HAD PREVIOUSLY STOLEN SOME OF THE GENUINE PAPER!
DAILY RECORD
AND SO NATURALLY WHAT THEY PRINT IS GENUINE MONEY! I GET IT! AN' THEY'VE ABDUCTED OLD JENKINS AND HIS GRANDDAUGHTER!
KID, THE WHOLE COUNTRY WILL BE IN CHAOS IF THIS ISN'T STOPPED! OF COURSE IT'S A NAZI PLOT! BUCKY, THIS LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR CAPTAIN AMERICA!
RIGHT, CAP!
HOLD ON, BUCKY! WE DON'T CHANGE INTO OUR COSTUMES YET! WE'LL GO DOWN TO THE BANK IN TOWN AND LOOK AROUND FOR AWHILE! WE MIGHT GET A LEAD!
BUY WAR B
LUCKY WE GOT OUR THREE DAY PASS JUST AT THIS TIME!
A FEW MINUTES LATER, AT THE SECOND NATIONAL BANK!
YOU CAN'T CHANGE A THOUSAND DOLLAR BILL EXCEPT AT A BANK! I'D LIKE TO SEE IF ANYBODY PRESENTS ONE---
AND PRESENTLY---
WOULD YOU MIND CHANGING THIS THOUSAND DOLLAR BILL? I AM L.K. WATERS OF THE WATERS DEPARTMENT STORES!
TELLER
TELLER

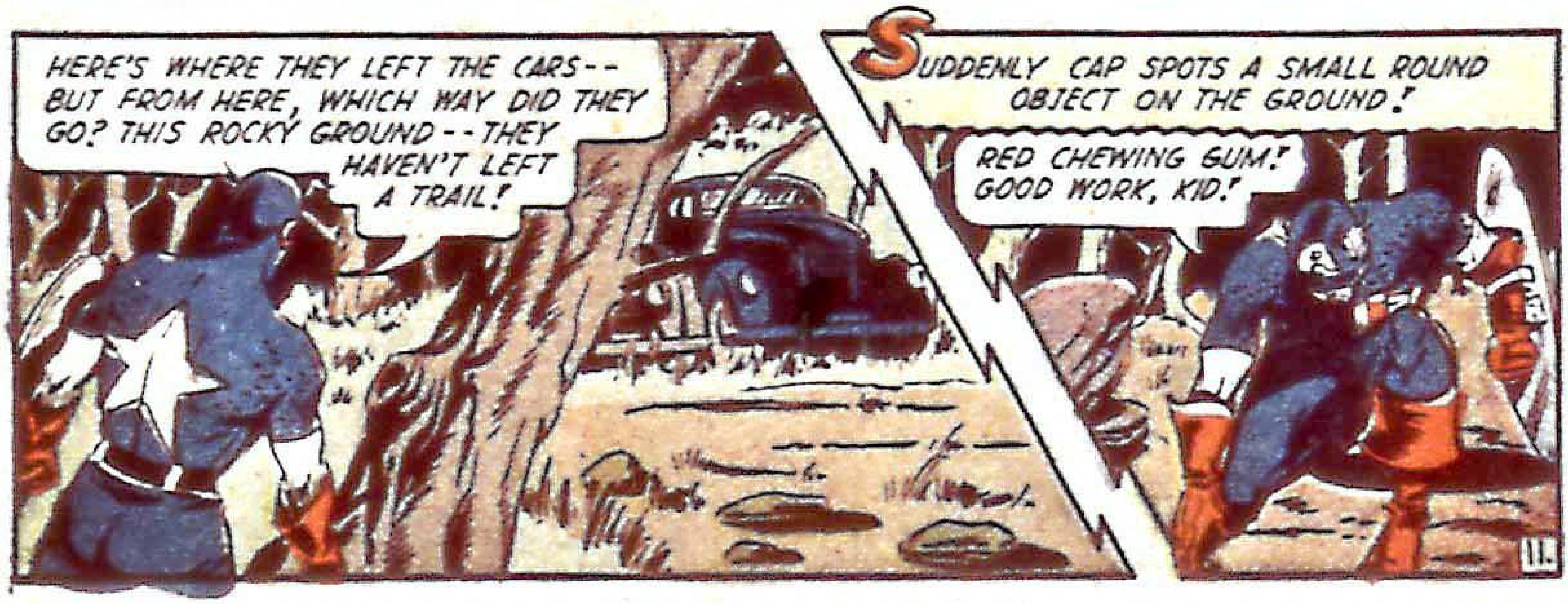

GENUINE ALL RIGHT! HOW WILL YOU HAVE IT, MISTER WATERS?
TENS AND TWENTIES, PLEASE!
WELL, BUCKY--THAT'S THE ONLY THOUSAND DOLLAR BILL THAT'S BEEN CASHED SINCE WE'VE BEEN HERE--BUT HE'S THE HEAD OF THE WATERS DEPARTMENT STORES! HE COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE MIXED UP WITH THE GANG WE'RE AFTER!
IT WOULDN'T HURT TO TRAIL HIM JUST THE SAME! WE GOT PLENTY OF TIME!
MIGHT BE A WILD GOOSE CHASE BUT WE'LL CHANCE IT---H'MM--THAT TAXI---COME ON, BUCKY--LET'S GO!
LATER---
LOOKS LIKE HE'S HEADIN' FOR VIRGINIA, STEVE!
YES, AND HE'S CERTAINLY MAKING SPEED!
TAXI
FOLLOW THAT BLACK CAR, DRIVER!
OKAY!
STEVE, WHAT'D YOU MEAN WHEN YOU SAID "H'MM-THAT TAXI," BEFORE WE TOOK IT?
THIS TAXI WAS SO CONVENIENTLY CLOSE BEHIND WATERS CAR! JUST SORT OF WAITING--IN CASE ANYBODY WANTED TO FOLLOW! IT WAS ALSO PARKED RIGHT IN FRONT OF THE WATER HYDRANT!
YOU MEAN, WE'RE IN A TRAP!
WELL, IF THIS DRIVER STARTS SOMETHING, WE'LL BE READY! START CHANGING, BUCKY!
TAXI

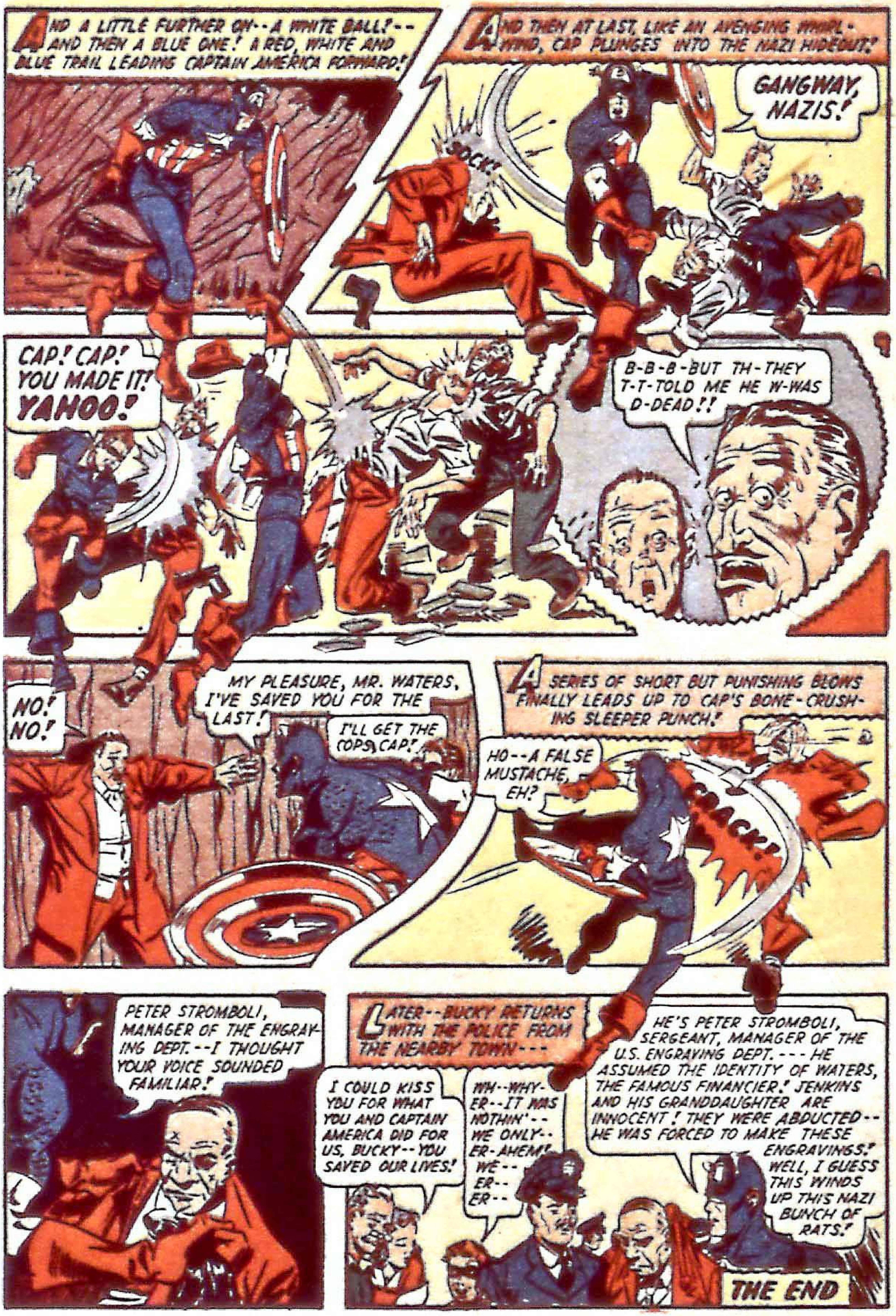

PRESENTLY, AS THE TAXI SLOWS DOWN AT AN INTERSECTION IN A SMALL VILLAGE --
WHAT'S UP, CAP?
I'M JUST NOTICING THE TREAD OF THE TIRES OF THAT LIMOUSENE JUST IN CASE WE SHOULD LOSE IT! TAKE A LOOK!
SEE THAT QUEER TREAD OF ONE OF THOSE TIRES?
SUDDENLY, THE DRIVER SLAMS ON HIS BRAKES AND STOPS THE TAXI!
HEY, DRIVER -- WHAT THE --!
TAXI
SCREECH
AS CAP STEPS FROM THE TAXI ---
WHA ---! AN AMBUSH, EH?
AND AS BUCKY JUMPS TO HELP CAP -- THE TAXI DRIVER LANDS A CRUSHING BLOW FROM BEHIND!
SURPRISE!
BIFF!
CAP IS ALSO FELLED BY A TREACHEROUS BLOW FROM THE REAR ----


K-K-KARL! DOT'S DER FAMOUS CAPTAIN AMERICA! YOU VILL BE REWARDED HANDSOMELY FROM DER FEUHRER FOR DIS! HE HASS BEEN IN OUR VAY RIGHT FROM DER START!
HIMMEL!!--UND I DID IT VID VUN BLOW!! HEH! HEH!
DIS KID IS JUST KNOCKED OUT! WE'LL TAKE HIM WID US TO THE CHIEF--HE MIGHT BE USEFUL! LET'S GO!
A SHORT WHILE LATER--BUCKY REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS!
JUST WAIT'LL CAP CATCHES UP WITH YOU GUYS!
HO! HO! YOUR CAPTAIN ISS DEAD IN DER BUSHES AT DER SIDE OF DER ROAD! HEH! HEH!
AND PRESENTLY---
C-CAP--D-DEAD? I-I-DON'T BELIEVE IT! NO!!
CAP CAN'T BE DEAD! HE JUST CAN'T BE!
CAP WILL COME AFTER ME! I KNOW HE WILL!
--AND NO ONE NOTICES BUCKY'S HAND AS IT FURTIVELY DROPS LITTLE ROUND OBJECTS TO THE GROUND--SOME RED, SOME WHITE, SOME BLUE!


AT THE HIDEOUT OF THE MONEY BANDITS---
HURRY, JENKINS--WE NEED THAT NEW ENGRAVING! KEEP ON WORKING!--OR SHALL WE TORTURE YOUR GLORIA A LITTLE MORE!
YOU FIENDS! YOU MURDEROUS FIENDS!
OH! IF CAP COULD ONLY FIND HIS WAY HERE!

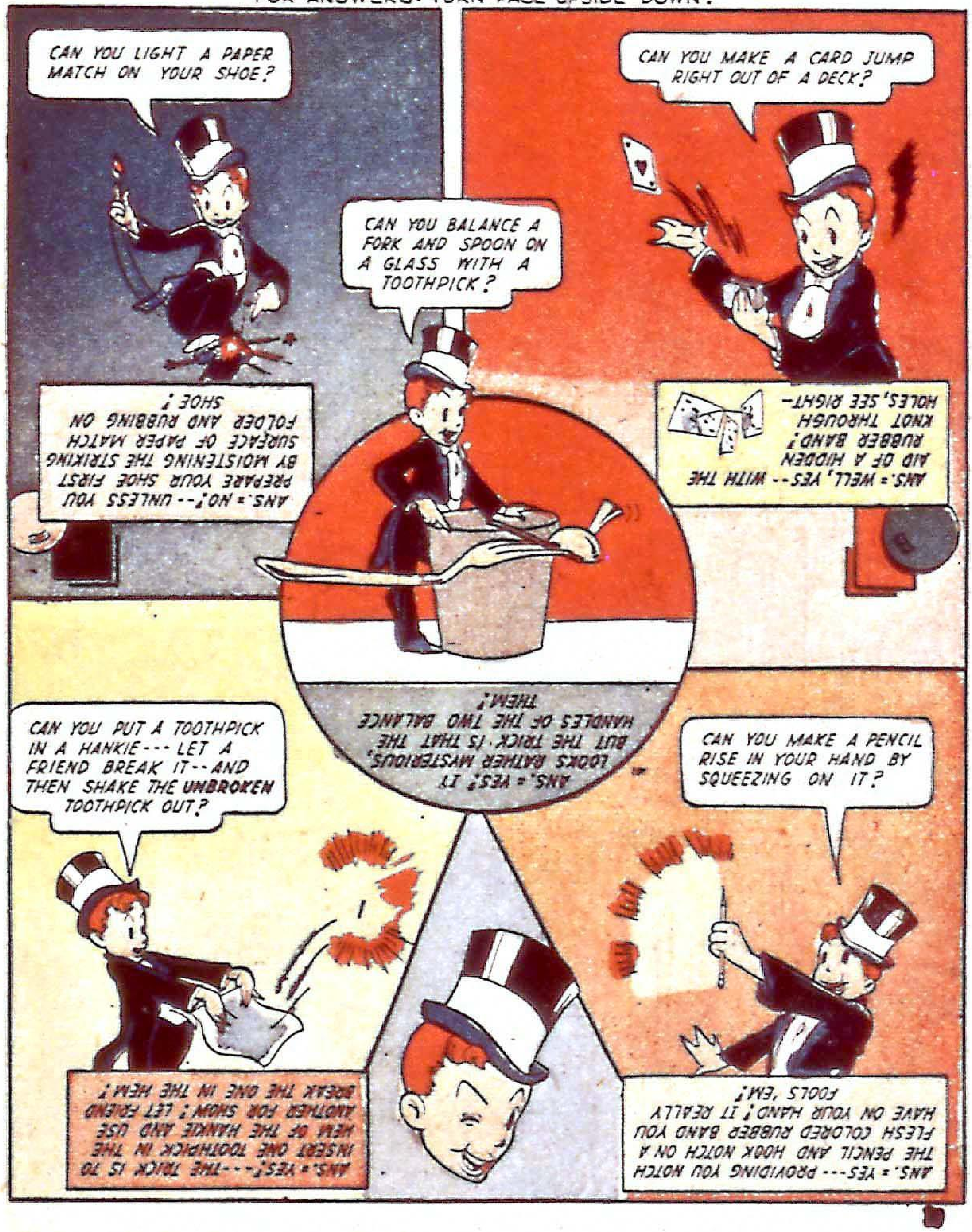

MEANWHILE, CAP HAS SLOWLY RECOVERED CONSCIOUSNESS!
OW! MY HEAD! THAT DEFECTIVE TIRE TREAD! THAT'S THE LIMOUSENE ALRIGHT!
A QUARTER OF A MILE FURTHER---
THE LIMOUSENE LEFT THE ROAD HERE--WENT DOWN INTO THIS DELL!

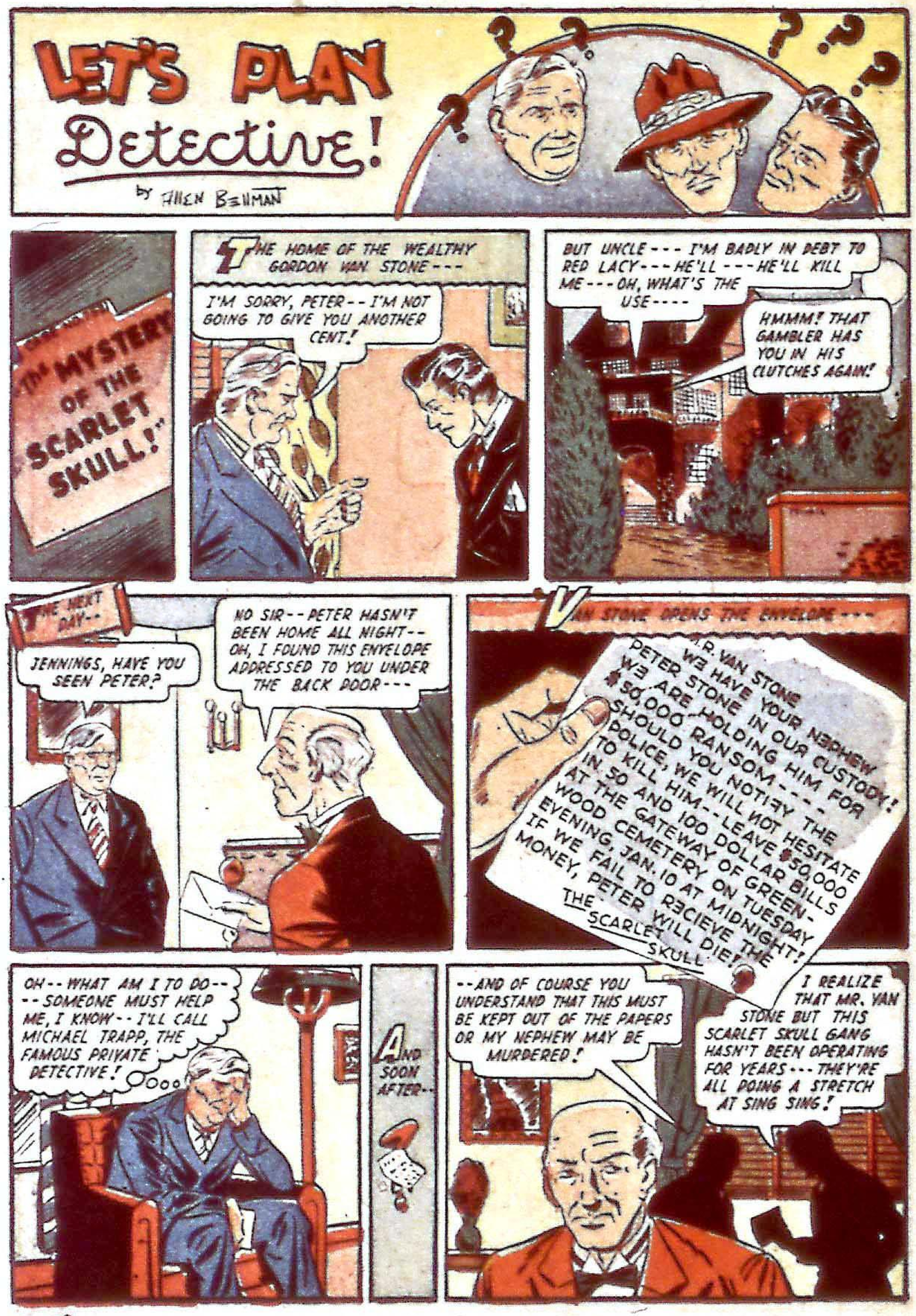

HERE'S WHERE THEY LEFT THE CARS--BUT FROM HERE, WHICH WAY DID THEY GO? THIS ROCKY GROUND--THEY HAVEN'T LEFT A TRAIL!
SUDDENLY CAP SPOTS A SMALL ROUND OBJECT ON THE GROUND!
RED CHEWING GUM! GOOD WORK, KID!

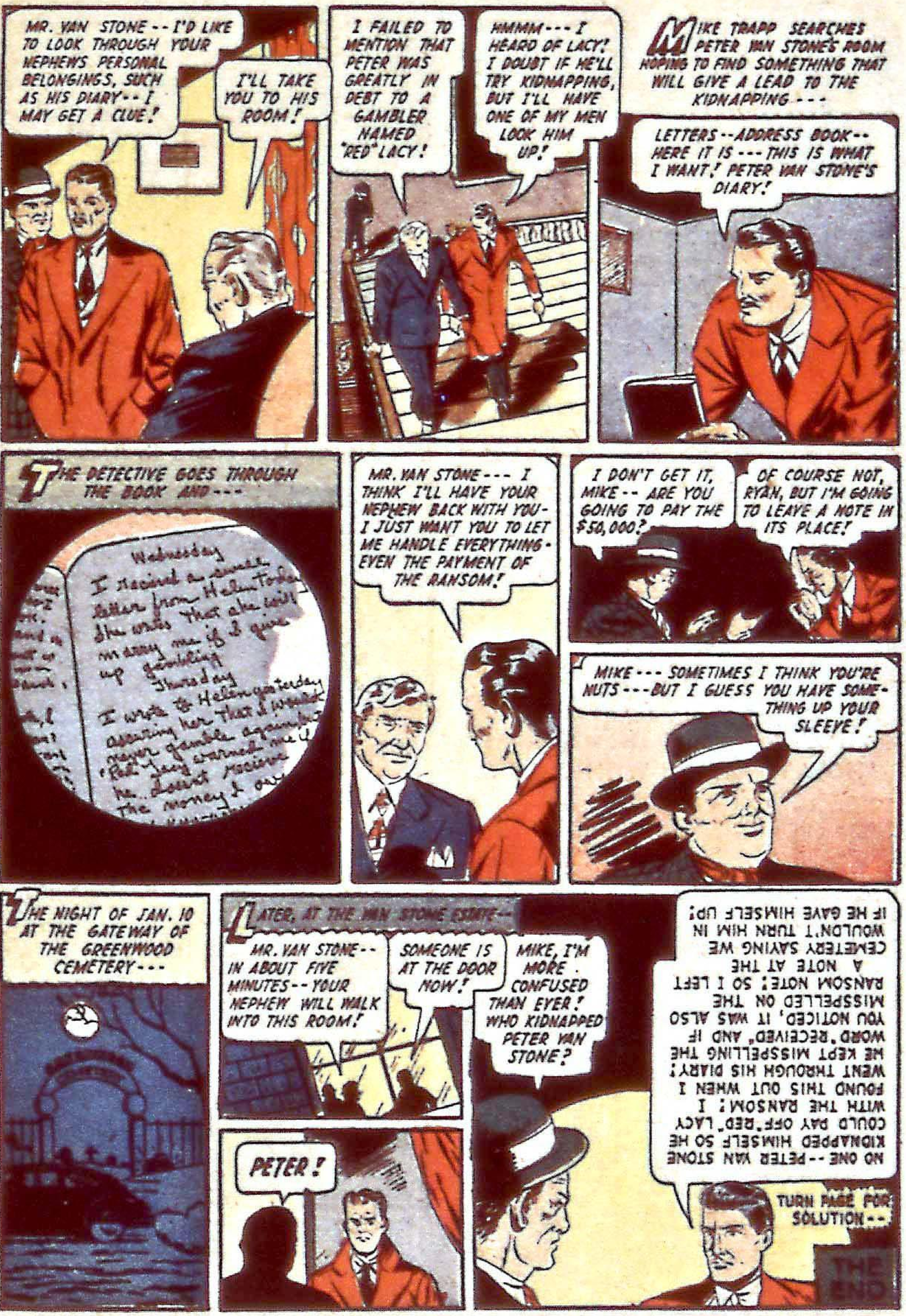

AND A LITTLE FURTHER ON--A WHITE BALL!--AND THEN A BLUE ONE! A RED, WHITE AND BLUE TRAIL LEADING CAPTAIN AMERICA FORWARD!
AND THEN AT LAST, LIKE AN AVENGING WHIRLWIND, CAP PLUNGES INTO THE NAZI HIDEOUT!
GANGWAY, NAZIS!
SOCK!
CAP! CAP! YOU MADE IT! YAHOO!
B-B-B-BUT TH-THEY T-T-TOLD ME HE W-WAS D-DEAD!!
NO! NO!
MY PLEASURE, MR. WATERS, I'VE SAVED YOU FOR THE LAST!
I'LL GET THE COPS, CAP!
A SERIES OF SHORT BUT PUNISHING BLOWS FINALLY LEADS UP TO CAP'S BONE-CRUSHING SLEEPER PUNCH!
HO--A FALSE MUSTACHE, EH?
CRACK!
PETER STROMBOLI, MANAGER OF THE ENGRAVING DEPT.--I THOUGHT YOUR VOICE SOUNDED FAMILIAR!
LATER--BUCKY RETURNS WITH THE POLICE FROM THE NEARBY TOWN---
I COULD KISS YOU FOR WHAT YOU AND CAPTAIN AMERICA DID FOR US, BUCKY--YOU SAVED OUR LIVES!
WH--WHY--ER--IT WAS NOTHIN'--WE ONLY--ER-AHEM! WE--ER--ER--
HE'S PETER STROMBOLI, SERGEANT, MANAGER OF THE U.S. ENGRAVING DEPT.---HE ASSUMED THE IDENTITY OF WATERS, THE FAMOUS FINANCIER! JENKINS AND HIS GRANDDAUGHTER ARE INNOCENT! THEY WERE ABDUCTED--HE WAS FORCED TO MAKE THESE ENGRAVINGS! WELL, I GUESS THIS WINDS UP THIS NAZI BUNCH OF RATS!
THE END

MAGIC QUIZ

FOR ANSWERS: TURN PAGE UPSIDE DOWN!


CAN YOU LIGHT A PAPER MATCH ON YOUR SHOE?
ANS. = NO!-- UNLESS YOU PREPARE YOUR SHOE FIRST BY MOISTENING THE STRIKING SURFACE OF PAPER MATCH FOLDER AND RUBBING ON SHOE!
CAN YOU MAKE A CARD JUMP RIGHT OUT OF A DECK?
ANS. = WELL, YES -- WITH THE AID OF A HIDDEN RUBBER BAND! KNOT THROUGH HOLES, SEE RIGHT-
CAN YOU BALANCE A FORK AND SPOON ON A GLASS WITH A TOOTHPICK?
ANS. = YES! IT LOOKS RATHER MYSTERIOUS, BUT THE TRICK IS THAT THE HANDLES OF THE TWO BALANCE THEM!
CAN YOU PUT A TOOTHPICK IN A HANKIE--- LET A FRIEND BREAK IT -- AND THEN SHAKE THE UNBROKEN TOOTHPICK OUT?
ANS. = YES!---THE TRICK IS TO INSERT ONE TOOTHPICK IN THE HEM OF THE HANKIE AND USE ANOTHER FOR SHOW! LET FRIEND BREAK THE ONE IN THE HEM!
CAN YOU MAKE A PENCIL RISE IN YOUR HAND BY SQUEEZING ON IT?
ANS. = YES--- PROVIDING YOU NOTCH THE PENCIL AND HOOK NOTCH ON A FLESH COLORED RUBBER BAND YOU HAVE ON YOUR HAND! IT REALLY FOOLS 'EM!


LET'S PLAY Detective!
by ALLEN BELLMAN
?
?
?
?
?
?
"The MYSTERY OF THE SCARLET SKULL!"
THE HOME OF THE WEALTHY GORDON VAN STONE---
I'M SORRY, PETER--I'M NOT GOING TO GIVE YOU ANOTHER CENT!
BUT UNCLE---I'M BADLY IN DEBT TO RED LACY---HE'LL---HE'LL KILL ME---OH, WHAT'S THE USE----
HMMM! THAT GAMBLER HAS YOU IN HIS CLUTCHES AGAIN!
THE NEXT DAY--
JENNINGS, HAVE YOU SEEN PETER?
NO SIR--PETER HASN'T BEEN HOME ALL NIGHT--OH, I FOUND THIS ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO YOU UNDER THE BACK DOOR---
VAN STONE OPENS THE ENVELOPE---
MR. VAN STONE
WE HAVE YOUR NEPHEW
PETER STONE IN OUR CUSTODY!
WE ARE HOLDING HIM FOR
$50,000 RANSOM---
SHOULD YOU NOTIFY THE
POLICE, WE WILL NOT HESITATE
TO KILL HIM--LEAVE $50,000
IN 50 AND 100 DOLLAR BILLS
AT THE GATEWAY OF GREEN-
WOOD CEMETERY ON TUESDAY
EVENING, JAN. 10 AT MIDNIGHT!
IF WE FAIL TO RECIEVE THE
MONEY, PETER WILL DIE!
THE SCARLET SKULL
OH--WHAT AM I TO DO---SOMEONE MUST HELP ME, I KNOW--I'LL CALL MICHAEL TRAPP, THE FAMOUS PRIVATE DETECTIVE!
AND SOON AFTER--
--AND OF COURSE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT THIS MUST BE KEPT OUT OF THE PAPERS OR MY NEPHEW MAY BE MURDERED!
I REALIZE THAT MR. VAN STONE BUT THIS SCARLET SKULL GANG HASN'T BEEN OPERATING FOR YEARS---THEY'RE ALL DOING A STRETCH AT SING SING!


MR. VAN STONE -- I'D LIKE TO LOOK THROUGH YOUR NEPHEWS PERSONAL BELONGINGS, SUCH AS HIS DIARY -- I MAY GET A CLUE!
I'LL TAKE YOU TO HIS ROOM!
I FAILED TO MENTION THAT PETER WAS GREATLY IN DEBT TO A GAMBLER NAMED "RED" LACY!
HMMM --- I HEARD OF LACY! I DOUBT IF HE'LL TRY KIDNAPPING, BUT I'LL HAVE ONE OF MY MEN LOOK HIM UP!
MIKE TRAPP SEARCHES PETER VAN STONE'S ROOM HOPING TO FIND SOMETHING THAT WILL GIVE A LEAD TO THE KIDNAPPING ---
LETTERS -- ADDRESS BOOK -- HERE IT IS --- THIS IS WHAT I WANT! PETER VAN STONE'S DIARY!
THE DETECTIVE GOES THROUGH THE BOOK AND ---
Wednesday
I recived a sweet letter from Helen Tod
She writes that she will marry me if I give up gambling
Thursday
I wrote to Helen yesterday assuring her that I would never gamble again
"Red" Lacy warned me if he doesn't recive the money I ow
MR. VAN STONE --- I THINK I'LL HAVE YOUR NEPHEW BACK WITH YOU - I JUST WANT YOU TO LET ME HANDLE EVERYTHING - EVEN THE PAYMENT OF THE RANSOM!
I DON'T GET IT, MIKE -- ARE YOU GOING TO PAY THE $50,000?
OF COURSE NOT, RYAN, BUT I'M GOING TO LEAVE A NOTE IN ITS PLACE!
MIKE --- SOMETIMES I THINK YOU'RE NUTS --- BUT I GUESS YOU HAVE SOMETHING UP YOUR SLEEVE!
THE NIGHT OF JAN. 10 AT THE GATEWAY OF THE GREENWOOD CEMETERY ---
LATER, AT THE VAN STONE ESTATE --
MR. VAN STONE -- IN ABOUT FIVE MINUTES -- YOUR NEPHEW WILL WALK INTO THIS ROOM!
SOMEONE IS AT THE DOOR NOW!
MIKE, I'M MORE CONFUSED THAN EVER! WHO KIDNAPPED PETER VAN STONE?
PETER!
NO ONE -- PETER VAN STONE KIDNAPPED HIMSELF SO HE COULD PAY OFF "RED" LACY WITH THE RANSOM; I FOUND THIS OUT WHEN I WENT THROUGH HIS DIARY; HE KEPT MISSPELLING THE WORD "RECEIVED" AND IF YOU NOTICED, IT WAS ALSO MISSPELLED ON THE RANSOM NOTE; SO I LEFT A NOTE AT THE CEMETERY SAYING WE WOULDN'T TURN HIM IN IF HE GAVE HIMSELF UP!
TURN PAGE FOR SOLUTION --
THE END

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1. How to take care of your skin.
2. Professional Make-up Tricks.
3. Secrets of Smart Hair-Styling.
4. Hands can tell a tale; manicuring.
5. Your feet should be admired.
6. Carriage, posture, walking, acquiring grace and ease.
7. Do you sit correctly?
8. What you should weigh.
9. Table of Average Weights.
10. If you are fat, how to reduce safely, easily.
11. If you are thin, putting on weight.
12. Does one have to exercise?
13. Assuring personal cleanliness and hygiene; check list.
14. Take care of your teeth.
15. How much sleep do you need?
16. She Walks in Beauty.
17. When is a girl smartly dressed? Knows her type—never overdressed—never conscious of clothes—yet with certain verve and dash.
18. How to effect certain optical illusions to appear taller or shorter, thinner or rounder.
19. If you are very short, here is what you can do; fabrics, colors, types and clothes to wear, accessories. Actions and manners, too.
20. How to dress if you are very tall.
21. If you are stout, besides trying to lose weight, here's what else to do and not to do. Don't wear tight clothes, tiny hats, small things. Here are best colors, fabrics, styles for you!
22. The normal figure woman; how to select the most becoming clothes. What goes with what.
23. Building your wardrobe, plan—don't plunge. Building around what you need most, adding endless variety.
24. Accessories are important relating to several costumes.
25. Six rules for being well-groomed.
26. What men don't like in women's clothing or grooming.
27. How to achieve that well-groomed appearance that makes people [illegible] you.

SECTION II—WHAT TO DO TO IMPROVE YOUR RELATIONS WITH OTHERS.

28. How to meet people in cordial and poised manner—when to shake hands, what to say.
29. What a smile can do; laughter.
30. Adding interest to your voice.
31. Looking at other people with open mind.
32. Your troubles are your own; don't spread your woes.
33. The art of conversation. Don't be a tangent talker, omit the terrible details; brevity still soul of wit.
34. Nothing duller than walking encyclopedia; insert own opinions and ideas; avoid useless chatter.
35. How to be interesting talker.
36. Listen with mind as well as ears.
37. Do people like you more as time goes on?
38. How to overcome shyness and self-consciousness.
39. How to develop physical and mental appeal.
40. Having a good time at a party.
41. When dining out, two or a crowd, formal or casual.
42. How are your telephone manners?
43. Write the sort of letters you would like to receive.
44. Shopping, pleasure or ordeal?
45. Manners and clothes of yesterday compared to those of today.
46. Don't be a martyr-type; out of fashion to injure your health, or sacrifice life for children, parents, etc.
47. The wishy-washy dear is burden to herself and others; let people know your likes and dislikes.
48. How to handle the question of money matters.
49. Help, help, what's the answer? Should you let prospective beau take you to 55c theatre seats or to orchestra only? Does he fail to bring flowers because he is stingy, thoughtless or impoverished? When he asks you where to go, should you name a tea room or an expensive supper club? When he asks you what you want for a gift, should you say, "nothing" or "Guerlain's Perfume"? etc., etc.
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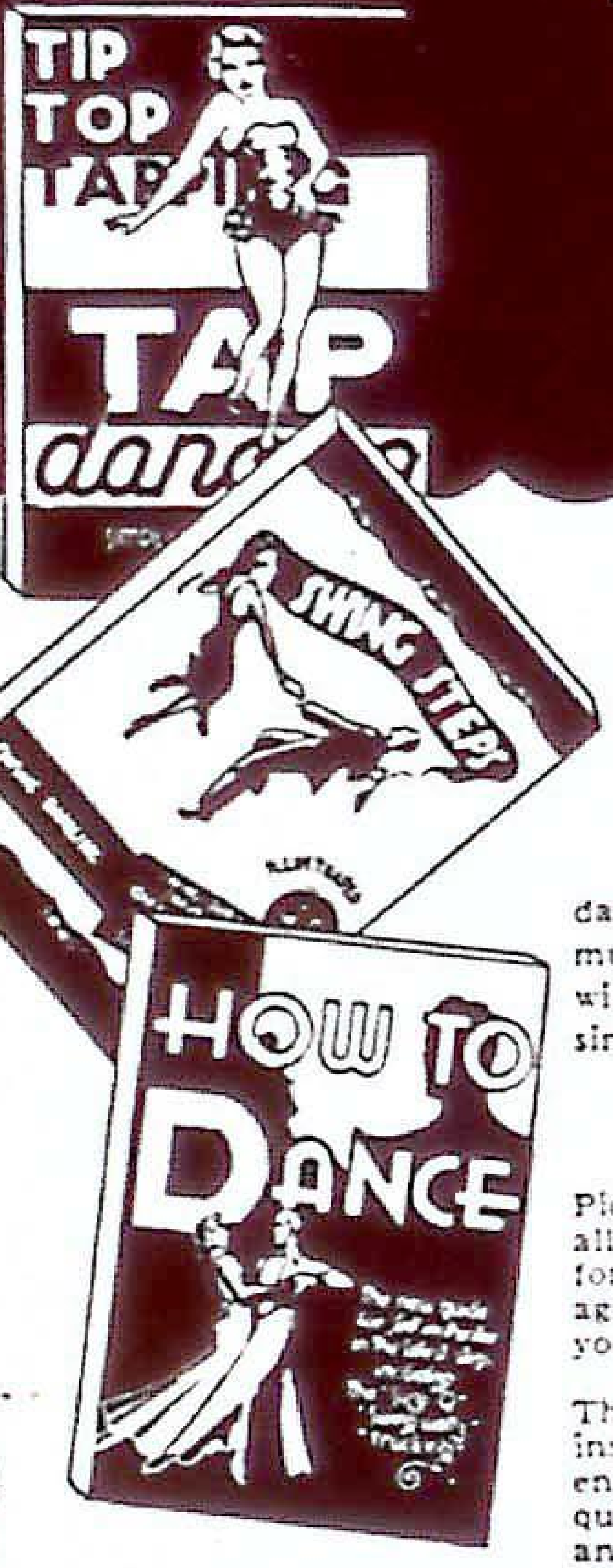
it's FUN to TEACH YOURSELF TO Dance DIVINELY



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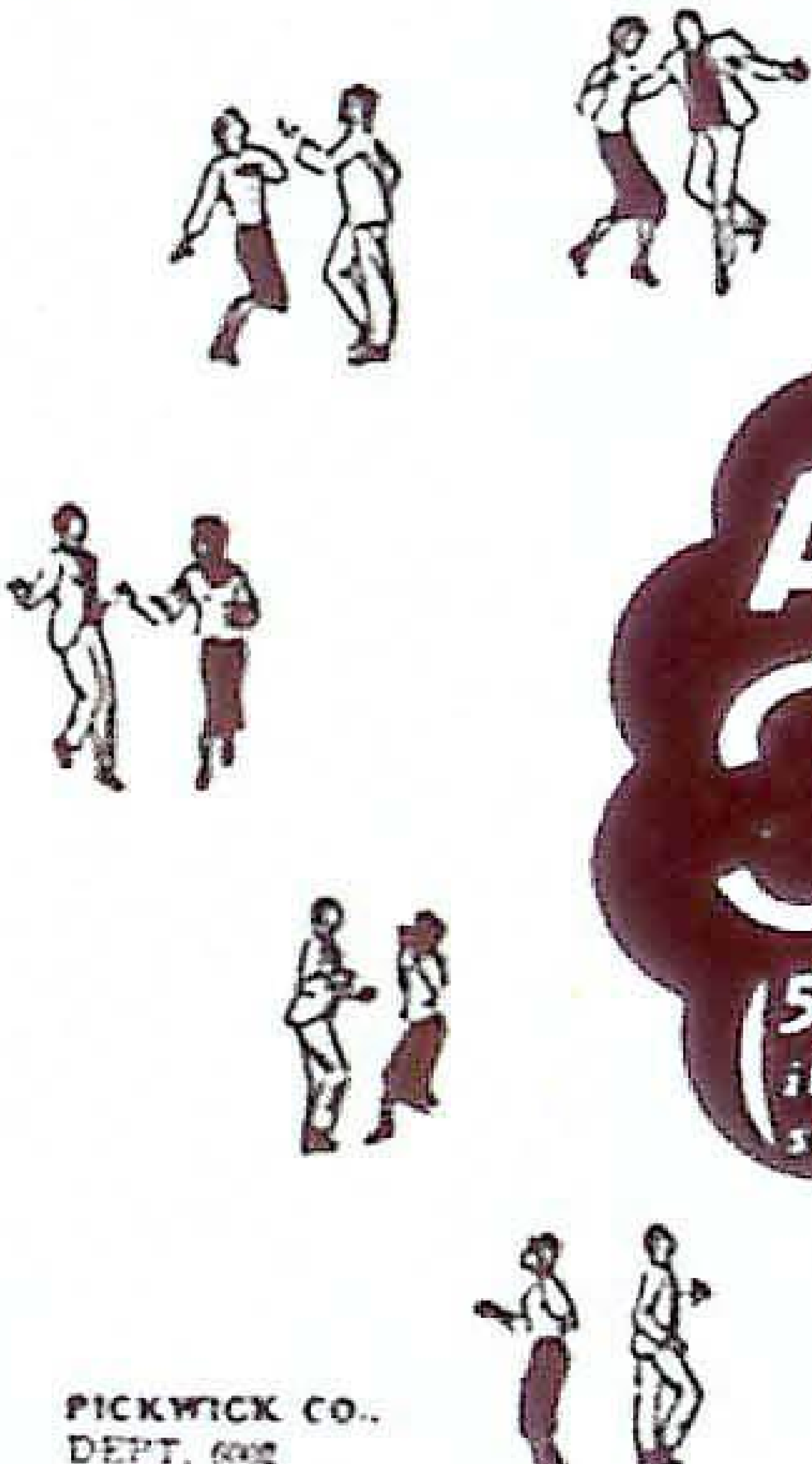

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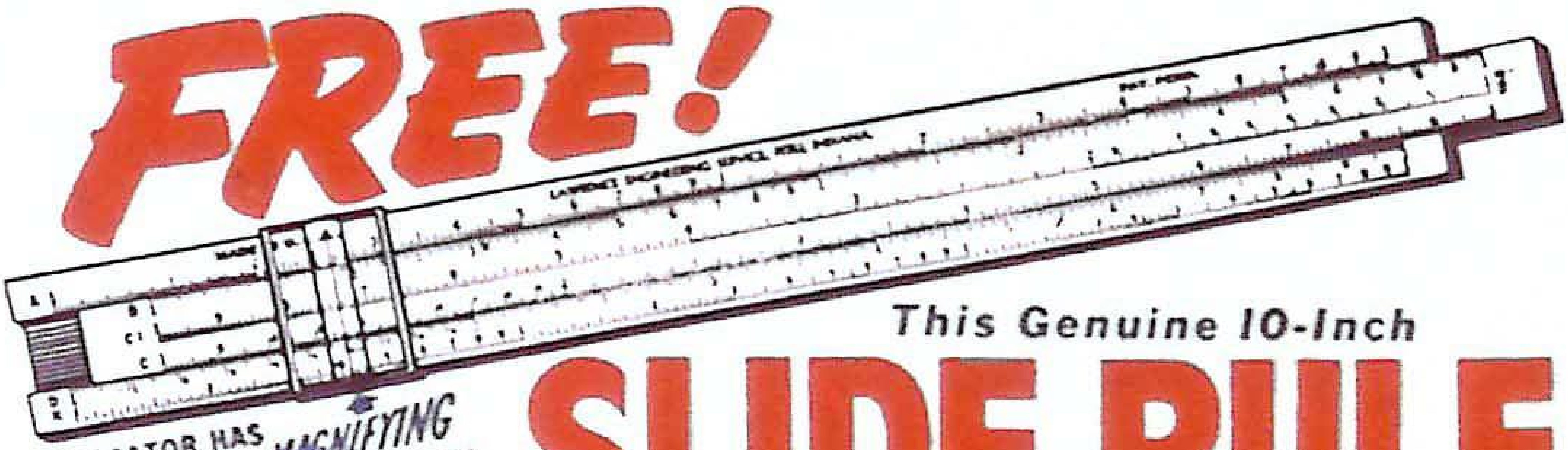

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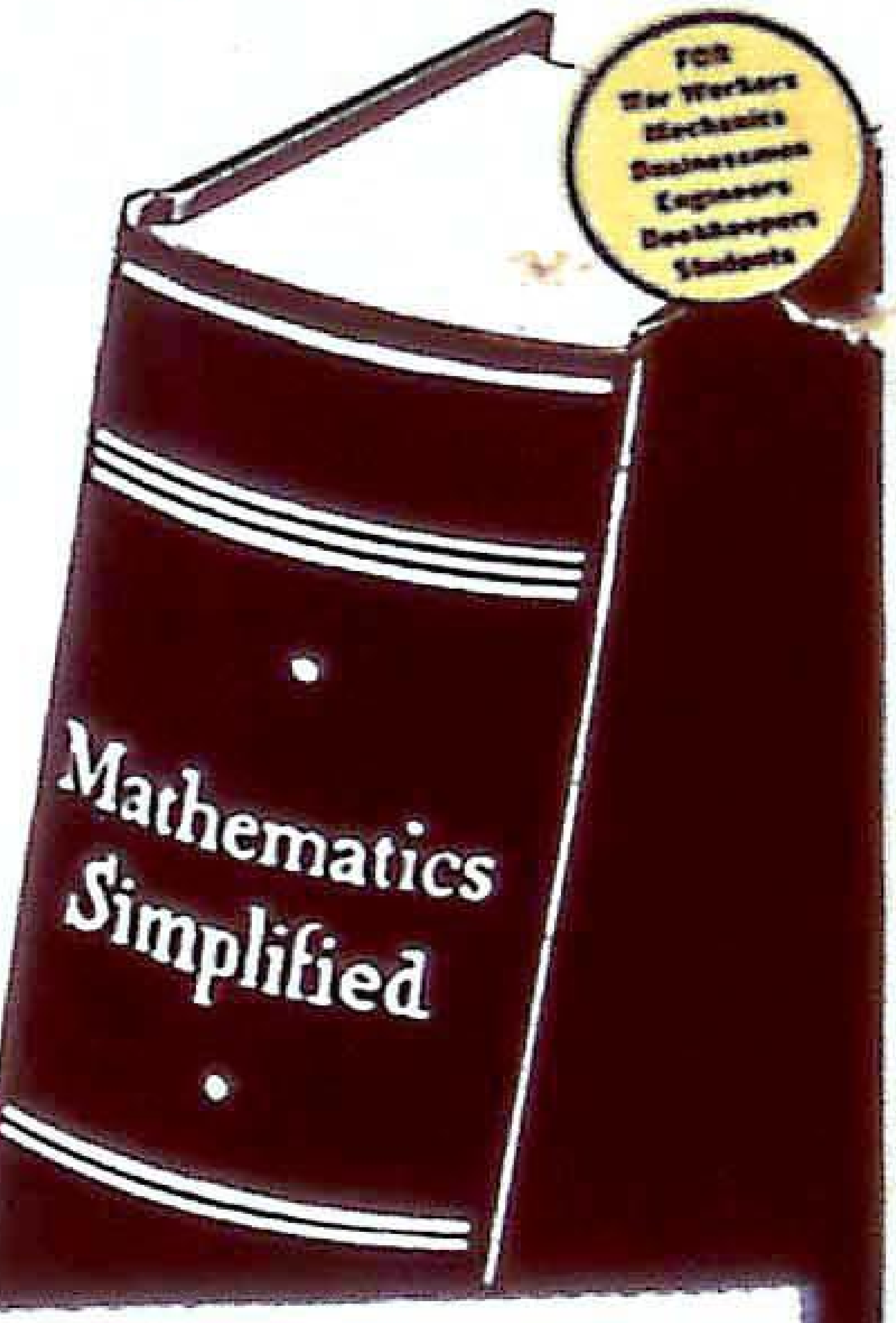

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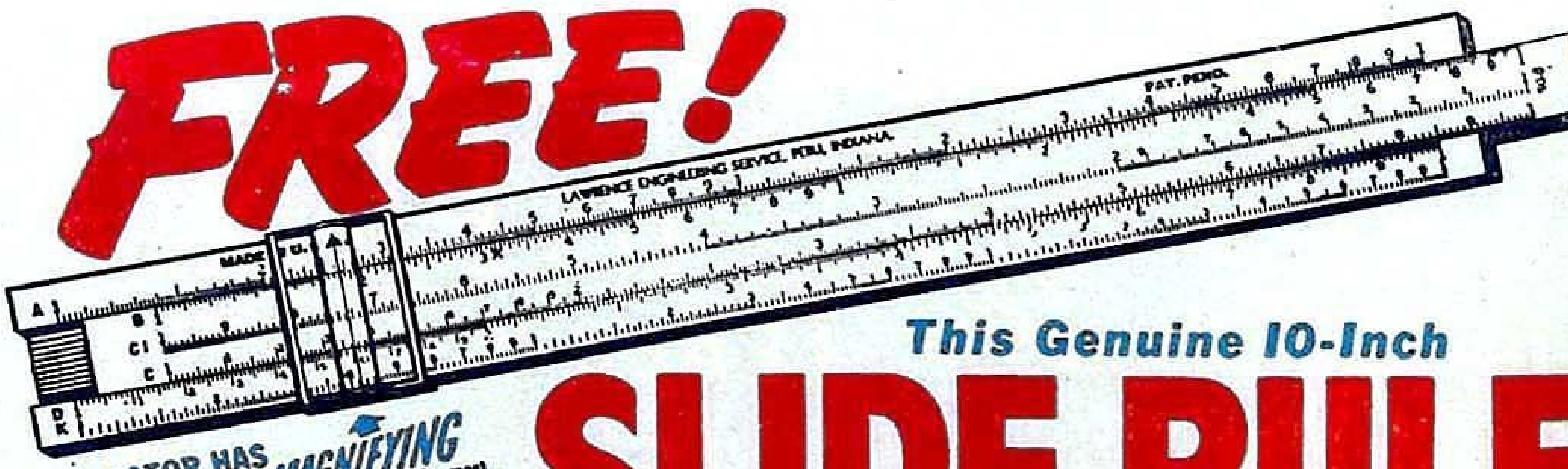
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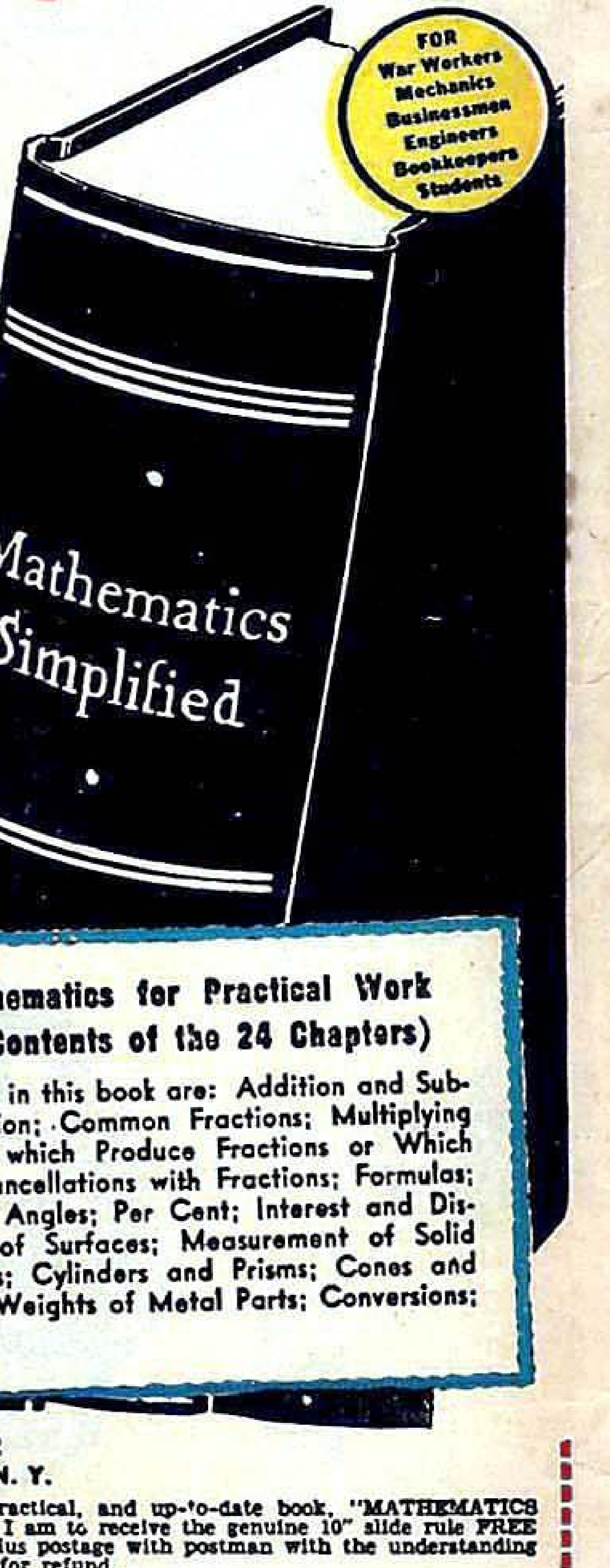

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